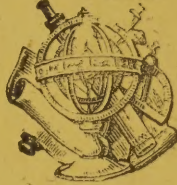
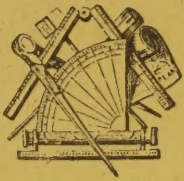




Capt. Frank A. Barker -
Care of Alfred Bunker -
Boston (Highlands)
Mass.



C. R. SHERMAN & CO.,
(SUCCESSORS TO J. KEHRW.)
AT THEIR
NAVIGATION STORE,
49 North Water, cor. of William St.,
NEW BEDFORD,
HAVE FOR SALE ALL THE VARIOUS KINDS OF
Nautical, Optical and Mathematical
INSTRUMENTS,
NAUTICAL BOOKS, STATIONERY, &c., &c.,
At wholesale and Retail; and as complete an assortment of
CHARTS
Of all parts of the World Visited by Whalemén,
AS IS REQUIRED TO MAKE A COMPLETE
NAVIGATION ESTABLISHMENT.
ALL INSTRUMENTS
— FOR —
REPAIRS,
WILL RECEIVE THE PERSONAL ATTENTION OF
THE PROPRIETORS.



461

338
2/2

In Introducing this work, to the Public
The author to ~~the~~ the merit of strict fidelity to the
the truth, as almost all the Incidents related,

In Introducing this work, to public notice
The author may claim for ~~the~~ the merit of strict
fidelity to truth; as almost all of the Incidents
related, he was an eye witness to - and ~~the~~ no
part of his design, to give, a partial view of
anything that occurred, during his stay in the
country -

He has simply chronicled facts, as
they came under his observation, without
exaggeration or deviation from facts and
trusts to the Indulgence of the generosity
of his readers to believe he has not been too
fond "of drawing the long bow" while recording
the peculiar manners and customs of a race
so little known ~~as~~ as the Great Esquimaux
of Asiatic Russia
A. A. Parker -

20 Months In Siberia, Behring's Straits, and Alaska. By a Shipwrecked Whaling Master -

On the 19th of October 1870, The barque "Japan" of Melbourne Victoria, Australia, was bound out of the Arctic circle, through Behring's Straits, for the Sandwich Islands, and Melbourne. After a successful cruise in those waters, & 4 months with 1150 bbls of Black oil, 20000 lbs whalebone & 10,000 of Walrus Ivory on board - 19 months absent from Melbourne, and 7 from her last port of call "Fay of Islands" N.E. where the year's previous catch of 740 barrels oil had been shipped home.

On the afternoon of the 8th of this month a gale subsided that had been raging for the 4 previous days with great fury which had obliged ^{us} to lie hove to, under a goose winged main topsail and foretopmast staysail during that time, heading to the Eastward, with wind varying from S to E to N.E. as soon as it commenced to moderate the lower topsails and storm sails were set which was all we could show to the breeze and standing to the Eastward the mastsheads were manned ~~the~~ the hope of seeing either a sail or land that we might be able to define our position, as no sign of the Sun, Moon or Stars had been seen for the previous 14 days - It was still a dense gloom around the entire horizon as it had been so long and I was necessarily feeling very anxious to know where we were - As in that portion of the sea the currents set in various directions with considerable force, generally with the wind however, and as I knew land was to the South, felt very desirous to see something. The deep sea lead was consulted, which gave 23 fathoms, Mud - but on examining the charts the same soundings were marked on both sides of the Straits - About 2 P.M. the fog towards the West seemed to dissolve away partially in the sun's rays whose disc appeared like a ball of brass, just sufficiently long for 3 sets of altitudes to be

taken, but the refraction of the horizon was so unequal that
 no dependence could be placed upon either of them.
 One set placed me in "Kotzebue Sound" one nearly
 abreast Cape North on the opposite side, while the
 third gave our position just off the Pointe de St.
 the mean of all three, gave nearly the same result,
 so no reliance could be placed upon them. At 1/2 past
 3 we saw the loom of land and shortly after
 the land itself the top of which was enveloped
 in gloom and as its range extended but a few
 points along the horizon quite 12 miles off, we were
 unable to make it out at all so we kept by the wind
 trusting to luck for some view of a headland or
 point to distinguish, making bad weather of it
 at times, as a tremendous sea was running and
 we were showing all the canvas we could to what at
 any other time, there would be called a heavy gale
 but then much more moderate than it had been
 for the four previous days during which we
 had lost our two lee boats, gear and all —

At 4 PM a sail was seen off our lee which
 proved to be a barque standing to the East which as
 we came up with, we saw was the "Massachusetts"
 of San Francisco Capt. Footy. It was now growing
 dark fast, the gloom had enveloped all from sight
 and the sea was too high to attempt to communicate.
 Soon after we saw her lights as signals for our
 company and answering them reduced sail
 that we might be able to keep company ^{back with her} we were
 so much the better sailers and during the entire
 night we were either laying aback or when becalmed forward
 had the helm hard down for her to keep up; and in
 two instances were obliged to run to leeward to
 find her, she drifted so fast before the swell —
 At daylight we were within 1/2 a mile of her to the N.W. — At 6 AM
 she bore away E. & S. and we followed, after steering the
 same course. It had now commenced to blow harder
 than ever with thick snow squalls, which quite obscured
 her with their density so much so that at times we
 were quite unable to see beyond the length of the

vessel, and a high sea running rendered it desirable
 to place a man @ the lee helm, to assist the steersman
 we were then under tow topsails and fore topmast stay
 sail: the foresail was set, and I stationed myself
 on the top of the hurricane house, with an officer, 2 men,
 and a boatsteerer upon the bow for lookouts. I had
 the Officer of the deck clear away the ice (the ship
 was covered with fore and aft) about the windlass
 and hause pipes, overhauled 15 fathoms of range on
 each chain, and have everything clear to anchor
 in case it was required. The thermometer was
 13° below zero and every drop of salt water
 that came on board froze solid, where it struck.
 In the course of 20 minutes, between the snow
 squalls, it cleared up sufficiently for me to
 see the ice off our lee quarter close by and the
 foresail was hauled up to enable her to keep up.
 She carrying double reefed upper topsails, and foresail
 dragging on as much as she could bear and in
 the heaviest of the squalls pulling down her upper
 topsails, to avoid carrying them away. The baromet
 er now stood at 28° 50 the wind, a howling gale,
 with a tremendous sea running threatening to
 sweep the decks every moment, and every indication
 of a furious gale - to be sure too in that uncertain
 position, with land off the lee, which although
 we could not see, was close aboard; was made up
 to haul on the wind, was equally so, as we would
 be obliged to reduce sail. and knowing if we were
 in "Kotzebue Sound" we should find a lee - by
 the make of the land where we could anchor
 if it came to the worst. My only alternative was
 to trust to Providence, and our lookouts -
 with the hope that our consort knew his position
 and the instructions of following after him, if possible
 which with her slow sailing and the dense snow
 squalls rendered it a most difficult task, for
 had we collided, both would probably have
 been lost - so by making and reducing sail
 we managed to keep run of her until 11 A.M.

where we saw high land through the squalls bearing
 South per compass and not more than 3 miles distant
 just catching a momentary glimpse of its top, I
 called it Cape East - which was the impression of
 the Second Officer, who had the deck and all
 that saw it - the sea now every moment became
 more and more threatening, expecting every moment
 to have the decks swept clean, which would have
 been the case had we boarded us, and knowing
 the Diomedes Islands were close to ahead which
 we could not have seen in time to avoid running
 upon I altered the course to S by E and set the
 main topmast staysail - at 1/2 past 11 to S by South
 and feeling confident we were in the straits
 called the officer of the deck to my post while I
 consulted my chart for the course through the
 straits. I had hardly laid my hand upon it
 when I heard a heavy sea board us and dropping
 it, run to the gangway in time to meet the 4th
 Officer at the gangway who reported "Low land
 close aboard ahead sir" shouting to the men at
 the helm to hard a starboard, and to brace up
 the yards. I jumped up to my former position
 where all along off the lee within 3 ship's lengths
 was a line of ~~men~~ white breakers, steadying
 the helm as she came up to the wind I
 glanced ahead within the same distance
 up to 4 Points off the weather bow this settling
 chaldron of the wickedest looking breakers I
 ever saw extended, and @ a glance I saw we
 were lost. To think of anchoring was sure death
 to tack impossible - to wear there was not
 room - all was comprehended in a moment
 all hands were called. Our safety lay in her
 striking head on - the helm was ordered
 hard a port - and at the same time a sea swept
 the decks taking away boats, houses, hatches &
 men sending them far away to the leeward
 God knows where - I had seen it coming
 and throwing off my coat just in time to clutch

the topsoil barrier on the lee side of the Muzzie must
 before we were completely buried, beneath it.
 Struggling for breath, I let go my hold and was
 washed into the inside of the lee Muzzie rigging
 just as she struck the bottom, glancing to windward.
 I saw the "Mapachusetts" coming on to her
 down apparently not 1/4 a mile to the S.W. and
 another tremendous breaker rolling towards
 us towering far above the topsoil girdle, diving
 for the Cabin gangway I reached the head of
 the stairs, in time to be hurled into the after
 Cabin amidst tons of water and floating
 debris of all kinds of materials, reaching the
 Starboard side, half stunned and exhausted.
 I could see through the top of the skylight
 that was washed completely off the shore on
 the port side, which she was heaving upon heading
 to the Westward, the last sea having thrown her
 completely around and broadside on -
 amidst the roar of the surf the howling of the
 wind, and the hindering fleet then falling
 I plainly heard the death shriek of some
 unfortunate member of my crew, and struggling
 amidst the water, some half dozen or more
 men who were tossed about in their struggle
 for life. Immense seas would come rushing
 over us and completely submerge everything
 from sight. while, Immense cataraacts of water
 would pour into the cabin and rush out
 into the fore saloon reaching nearly to the door
 of my stateroom, which being on the Starboard
 or highest side, was comparatively dry - but
 the violent pounding of the ship rendered it
 impossible to stand without a brace or hand hold.
 I had stripped off my outer garments, as soon
 as I reached the room expecting every moment
 to have to swim for life, in case the vessel
 broke up which I was momentarily expecting;
 finding the deck not however and nearly
 frozen with the cold. I changed my clothes @

once, for others, fortunately for me, had escaped the water, and then gathering others into a canvas signal bag. I proceeded to secure my two Chronometers by this gimbal, take them out of their outer casings, and place them therein. My sextant wrapped up in a woollen shirt next then some tins of meat, biscuit and powder with my colts revolver and needle rifle. Matches, needles and everything I could find handy that I thought would be required until I had as much as I could cleverly manage and I thought I could get safely on shore with -

Waiting until a heavy sea had passed over I started up the gangway wetted to the waist, and looked out for a chance to run and jump but just then another of those immense seas came over all with a rush that forced me to drop the bag and cling for dear life to the brass banisters of the stairway until finally I was obliged to release my hold and strike out for the transom which fortunately I reached with great exertion and many bruises. Crawling back to my room half dead with fatigue and cold, I about resigned myself to the fate that seemed laid out for me and lay at full length on the deck until I felt I had strength and life enough left to try to avoid being frozen as my wet garments were rapidly becoming stiff upon me. The only suit I now had left available was the poorest one in my possession. My new ones were with the Chronometers that I had abandoned at the head of the gangway and had not followed me up in my retreat. So making a virtue of necessity I got inside of them as speedily as possible and took another look towards the shore which seemed to be nearer than ever but still the immense waves came rushing over constantly and at each shock I felt something must give very soon; still I hoped she might hold together until she drove higher up and that my chance of escape would then be better than ever - but I was so cold the

Change of clothing did, not seem to restore me to my
 natural warmth, and I commenced searching
 for a bottle of fire I had stowed away among
 other articles of medicine, in one of the lockers
 aft of my room. After a good deal of trouble I
 found it, knocked off the neck with a sabre,
 and taking a few swallows, threw it against
 the lee bulkhead where it was dashed to pieces
 as I did not care to have articles of that kind
 exposed to the temptations of men or natives, if
 there were any there. Then I seated myself in
 the after part of my room where I watched, and
 waited for a chance of safety - The vessel lay upon
 her beam ends, the water with every wave that
 rushed over her would come rushing through
 the exposed skylight - Its full size, filling the lee
 side of the cabin nearly up to my seat and then
 would escape into the fore saloon through the open
 doors, until it reached the hold, the ship all the
 time driving up on the beach and pounding so
 violently that with every shock I expected she would
 break up and leave me for the struggle I was so
 momentarily expecting. Still she held together,
 and still I remained on the spot realizing the
 horrid situation I was placed in. I did not
 fear death after my first attempt to leave. as
 the conviction came with my abandoned effort
 that my security lay in watching and waiting
 events as they transpired. From that time I felt
 an increasing sense of safety that when I did attempt
 to again I should reach the shore. My pulse
 was calm and the violent throbbing of my
 heart had ceased, altogether - but the consciousness
 of having to winter here and the loss of all
 my months of toil and hard labor saddened
 me beyond description - whether my consort
 had escaped or was wrecked I knew not
 but I felt - If she had I need not look for
 rescue from her! - In one of her violent
 convulsions that shook everything to the very

centre, a drawer above my head detached itself from its fastenings, and came down with a rush. - In it was a box of cigars, with, fortunately, matches also which were both dry, seizing it I light one and smoked the roll of better fancy until it burnt my lips, then another and another until I must have consumed a dozen - all this while watching and listening to the violence of the waves - that seemed at last to expend their strength before they reached the wreck, and as they receded I could see the bare stones of the beach in range with the lower edge of the skylight - then all would be engulfed again until that receded and for 3 hours I watched and waited until I became convinced she had buried herself sufficient - In the gravel to become bedded - The clock in the skylight was still ticking away although full of water its fastenings proving good and true - and my watch at the head of my swinging bed convinced me it might be worth saving to keep time with; taking it down I set it at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 3 and commenced winding it up. Somehow the mainspring had become broken and a dash of water caused me to close it hastily - but not in time to prevent its becoming ruined, although I did not know it at the time - watching my chance I climbed over the transom to a lee stateroom where my Mackintosh was hanging I grasped it just in time to avoid a waterfall that came after my retreat^{my} footsteps, like an avalanche - Putting it on, and over that, my life preserving vest I felt it incumbent upon me to be moving once more - watching my time I dashed through the water up to my middle and partway up the gangway to take a look about the decks three times I called out to see if anyone was alive on board but heard no response except from the rushing waves and wind - glancing along the decks I saw

the mainmast - gone by the deck - the bullwarks
 also to the windward ^{ward}, every timber and stanchion
 as well, while to the leeward an immense mass
 of floating spars, sails and rigging was washing
 fore and aft with the bounding seas. The
 gangway alone remained whole. The
 binnacle and every vestige of pipe rails,
 hatchings, galleys & etc, had all been swept clean.
 The Mizzen topmast had broken short off to the
 cap lay with the lower end upon the port
 side of the poop. The upper end rested upon
 the steep incline of the beach and the port
 backstays, still attached to it told me at
 a glance they would act as life lines for my
 escape which should be made at once. Above
 the upper end on the highest part of the land
 stood some 5 or 6 natives, with their backs
 to the driving fleet. It was impossible for them
 to see, waiting doubtless for the plunder the
 waves had cast upon their shore. Whether I
 should be safe with them, I knew not but I
 was determined to sell my life dearly. If it
 came to the struggle - running back to the cabin
 convinced not one of them had seen me I
 took a small silver mounted Smith & Wesson
 revolver from the head of my bed and cramming
 the pockets of my Mackintosh with cigars
 from the box I had been using for food. I took
 a farewell glance at what had once been a
 happy home graced with the presence of wife
 and children, where many happy hours
 had been passed. but now how desolate and
 abandoned it seemed - everything in confusion
 washing about the lee side. (Charts, articles of
 wearing apparel mingled with the broken
 and floating bottles and vials from the medicine
 chest. The stove just revealing itself on its side,
 the ashes covering the furnaces and coals
 that once were elaborately in gilt and varnish
 Books of the collections of beads. Many of them

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

souvenirs, and among all, floating @ my feet, a tiny
 little red Morocco shoe, that my darling Gertie,
 had often run about the then to me hallowed
 precincts of that very cabin beginning the hours
 with her innocent prattling. My own little darling
 so far away and fortunately ignorant of this
 perilous position of her tempest tossed father,
 seizing it I could but give a moment to thought
 of her, beloved, Mother, and her last expressed
 wish, to accompany me to ~~accompany me to~~
 this frozen waste of Ice and Snow - Involuntarily
 I thanked God I had sufficient firmness
 then, to resist an appeal that seemed to be so
 heartless and cruel, by isolating myself for months
 from all that renders life endearing through familiar
 possibilities of accident so unexpectedly realized
 then - This the bitter pang that has caused me
 a sailor's wife, years of sorrow and woe, long
 absence conveyed by realization, this the inevitable
 destiny that accompanies us through all these
 long separations, when we revert to it - but with
 what involuntary thanks to God was my heart
 filled with then, to think I had resisted an
 appeal which then seemed so selfish - Time
 @ last sets all things even, and I fancy I can
 always look back upon that decision as the wisest
 act of my life. Involuntarily committing them to
 the care of that Divine Being "who thaps our
 ends, rough law them, as we will" I took another
 glance around with the inward conviction, that
 time for reflection was a risk of life - and reluctantly
 turned from the hallowed spot - at the foot
 of the staircase, I saw floating on the water
 my Prayer Book a gift of my wife which I seized
 at once, and started for the deck just after the
 last heavy sea had passed over - Striding and
 struggling through the water, I reached the poop
 grasped the backstays, and jumping at the same
 time, landed upon the shore quite up to my
 neck in water, that had overlooked me in my

exertions, they medutow took me from my foothold
 at once but my grasp upon the ice covered rope
 was too firm, to permit being washed away and
 soon regaining my foothold, I managed to struggle
 up the slipping bank above the reach of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~where~~
 a native observing me ran a short distance
 towards me and threw the end of a walrus
 hide rope making signs for me to grasp it
 but I knew I was out of harm's way so did not
 accept although they act. Indicating friendliness
 that quite relieved my mind regarding their
 intentions, but I kept my grasp upon my revolver
 watching them narrowly when I was surrounded
 by them each saying Captain and pointing to
 me acknowledging I was that unfortunate, ~~such~~
 they made signs to know what I had in my
 pockets producing my revolver and
 pointing it in their direction, they respectfully
 fell back a few paces and one who seemed
 to be superior to all the rest said something
 when two disappeared over the brow of the hill
 and presently returned with several dogs
 attached to a sleigh. While they were conferring
 among themselves, I took several hasty glances
 in the direction of my ship, that I was then within
 20 yards of she was lying with her deck towards
 the beach completely upon her side, the lee rail
 buried out of sight. The flying jibboom and
 fore top gallant mast were still perfect the main
 mast broken in two places was lying upon the
 beach with the mass of yards and sails attached
 the mizzen topmast remained just as I first saw
 it and had done me such good service in
 reaching my present position. The hull as
 far as I could see was perfect and I do not
 think she had even bilged she was so staunch
 and strong; but the seas were washing over first
 one end then the other, and at times covering
 her all up buried everything out of sight beneath.
 The breakers seemed to me to be the most formidable

I had ever seen, so fast if they were one, such -
 To give some idea of their height without any
 exaggeration, I may say the first one that
 broke over us filled the bent of the lower
 foretopraice and carried away the gale -
 One could only glance for a second at a time over
 their shoulders, they fleet drove before the blast with
 such blinding force, yet I saw all that was dear to me
 In these, sea, dashed to wreck and ruin, at the sport of
 the winds and waves, - which saddened my heart
 beyond description, when the conviction of having to
 pass the winter here came rushing through my
 mind with the speed of thought. - How little to us
 are the accustomed blessings of life, till some change
 robs us of them, and they are lost forever -

The "Massachusetts" was not to be seen, at least no
 sign was here and on my making signs to the
 natives, who could speak no English, they gave me
 to understand they had seen our disaster, in time
 to haul her wind, and pass safely by East Cape, the
 town of which I could just distinguish through the
 drift to the Eastward, some 5 miles distant.

Making signs for me to sit upon the sleigh and
 pointing to the east they said "Yarong" which I knew
 meant house, and I was only too glad to comply
 with their wish, as my clothes had commenced to
 stiffen fast with the cold. Starting the dogs upon
 a trot, two natives accompanied me, one driving
 by the side of the dogs, and the other running after
 us, holding on to a strip of Walrus hide, attached to
 the rear of the sleigh. We had perhaps made $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile
 in distance, when my feet became so intensely cold
 that I thought I could run a short distance, to
 restore their circulation, but I was so benumbed
 that I fell at once upon the snow. The sleigh was
 stopped, I was helped up and seated, again we
 started on once more. I felt after the excitement
 a little warmth, but the snow fell so fast that
 I soon began to think I should freeze there
 so jumped off ran a few steps, and fell full length.

This time, they remonstrated with me as I understood
 their unintelligible jargon giving me the idea that
 these delays might be avoided. If I kept my seat
 which was true enough - so I concluded to hold my
 peace and freeze before I made another like attempt.
 How far we were from their huts, I could not tell.
 It was so thick from the snow and sleet, but I
 fancied they knew and remained as submissive
 as they wished while we jogged along over the
 rough and uneven surface at the rate perhaps of 5
 miles per hour; I found at times, it required all
 my efforts to preserve my balance the vehicle was
 such a ticklish affair and such a novel method
 of travelling. Presently one of my guides pointed
 to a snow covered object - some 15 or 20 feet to the left
 and said "Muckie" now that is the Kanaka for
 dead: and as he pointed to the ship, I inferred at
 once it was one of my crew who I surmised had
 perished with the cold. I tried to make them
 stop the dogs that I might see if there was any
 signs of life in ^{him} and take him on the sleigh with
 me, although I was so benumbed I could scarcely
 move by that time, but they pointing to myself said
 "Muckie" again meaning I would soon be dead
 also if we did not reach the house soon. but I
 was not so near dead as they imagined although
 pretty cold. and I thought perhaps a little moral
 persuasion might convince them with the aid of
 "Smith and Wesson" feeling in my pocket for it I
 found it had disappeared, whether it had slipped
 out when I had fallen before or had been secretly
 abstracted, I knew not ~~which~~ but it was gone to
 think more about it was folly then - so I threw
 myself off the sleigh thinking I could make them
 stop anyway which they did, but I was so
 benumbed I could not walk or stand. this time
 they both picked me up and after seating me
 again lashed me to the sleigh to prevent my
 either falling or getting off my own accord and I
 gave up all further efforts to thwart them anyway -

but as this, was the first and only one of my crew I had seen or heard of It was but natural, I should wish to learn their fate, and If possible, save his life -

I now began to feel drowning, stealing over me which, to yield to, I knew was inevitable; death; No vain, I struggled, to throw It off Inevitably It came as I offered less and less resistance, until, I had just about become unconscious, when we stopped. I felt them, entering my throat, and then myself grasped by several pairs of hands carried into shelter and warmth. I had felt no pain until now but for a few moments, I suffered the most excruciating agony. My first sensation, was that of having my clothes, stripped off of me roughly and hastily by some 2 or 3 natives, I could just discern, through, the dimly lighted apartment which, made of skins, reflected, but little light from the wretched, apology of a lamp that smoked and flickered in one corner of the apartment. Presently I was enabled to see they were all women one of whom as soon as she succeeded in stripping off my wet stockings, took both my half frozen feet and placed them against her naked bosom covering them, as well as she could with her hideous, elongated, breasts, to restore their natural warmth. A pot of warm tea, of some kind was brought me to drink, but the smell was all sufficient. I could not bear it. A cast off shirt and pair of pants from some of the Pindis was next given me to wear and I soon realized, I had fallen into the hands of "Good Samaritans" - by this time, I was enabled to look around and my eyes having become accustomed to the darkened room distinguish all therein -

A square Apartment made entirely of Pindis skins, sewn firmly together, some 12 feet in extent each way, suspended from a wooden frame with 4 uprights at each corner as supports, constituted the room. The flooring of tanned, Malenshides, with a variety of separate deer skins lying upon it for lounges upon one of which I was reclining -

a little round stone basin, with a grooved rim, was full of oil, and on one side, had a semicircle of a flange perhaps an inch in height - which, resting upon a sort of wooden stool, perhaps 6 inches high, answered the purpose of both lamp and stove, to light and warm the apartment. This was in ~~the~~ one corner. In the other, at the back, were several rolls of skins, an old musket & a double banded fowling piece, indicating long service and much exposure while crouched behind the former. I could occasionally detect a glance of ^{regard} from the bright eyes of two little children, who were regarding the intruder with the combined gaze of awe and curiosity.

The atmosphere was redolent with oil, smoke and oleaginous flavors, that were decidedly nauseating - but the coldness without enabled one to bear with composure the minor ills within, and I could but feel thankful I had a shelter to protect me from the raging storm then prevailing that caused the crazy structure I was inside of to vibrate with the violence of the gusts. Three old women were seated around me, with the tears streaming down their cheeks, in the sympathy for the unfortunate who had been thrust upon them, and each one in turn, taking my hand bowed their head over it and exclaimed "Hoak" "Hoak" which I construed as an expression of sorrow for my misfortune. The circulation of my system having been fully restored - my fingers examined & etc, I was shown a new deerskin to lie upon and signs made for me to go to sleep. Exhausted as I was I felt - any other time, I could have done so - but anxiety for the fate of my officers, and crew prevented.

The men had disappeared, as soon as they had landed me at the house, for a share in the spoils of the wreck and for some time, I felt most anxious to follow them - but what could I do? I had as covering an old shirt and pants, and my recent experiences told, my resignation was my only resource at present -

The fierce gusts that came shrieking past

flapped the loose skins covering of the house with a violence, that threatened to unroof it every moment - while, through the crevices, came whirling in the sifting snow that covered the outer floor to the depth of several inches, that was trampled about with the indifferently habit-begets by those outside who I could just manage to discern by peering out from the lower part of the skin wigwam that they enclosed me - which miserable & squalid as it was, gave me a sense of security that, ~~un~~voluntary thanks to God for his goodness, in so far protecting my life, would be constantly arising in my mind -

Many were the expressions of sorrow that were evoked by those around me in abject and heartfelt tones, that, although in a strange tongue were not to be mistaken from the gestures that accompanied them. Talking with them was out of the question; but kindness, and sympathy, does not always require language to convey its impressions, especially in such cases as this -

Presently my ~~late~~ Officer Mr Price came to the house and called to know if I ^{were} there. He was quartered next house to me ^{door} and ^{was} had heard from the natives I was safe and having fortunately sufficient clothing provided him to face the storm, had called to learn my situation, and give me what information he had regarding the unfortunate survivors of the wreck - 8 were slipping out of a crew of 33 - how they all managed to escape that dire, our half hardly knew themselves, beyond that they were washed up upon the beach by the waves and in some instances, carried back and again thrown upon the shore - they all, except myself were on shore within 20 minutes after we struck. The last seen of Mr Scholier, he was hanging head down with his feet entangled in one of the ^{boat's} ropes, on the port quarter. James Armstrong and William Wallworthy are supposed to have never left the fore-castle - John Langham & Edmund Miller were

carried away by the first sea that bounded us, as well as
 John (Martin) and Harry Collins, who were never seen ^{again}
 afterwards - James, Miner, succumbed to the cold
 after walking about a mile and it was his body I
 had passed on my way up to the town where we
 are now quartered - After they had all got on shore
 safe they saw high land to the East between the
 snow squalls and started for it on the run. In
 the course of a mile they met 2 natives on dog
 sleighs who returned to the houses some 3 miles
 further up and provided for them, as well as
 they were able by distributing them among the
 different huts; they were nearly all more or less
 frost bitten and some had just life enough to
 reach the door when they became ~~exhausted~~ ^{exhausted}, and
 fell, senseless. They were then taken inside and
 stripped of their wet clothing restored to consciousness
 by friction, and the warmth of the lamps in
 the sleeping apartments - They all had a narrow
 escape for their lives and had the distance been
 1/2 a mile longer probably many more ^{would} have
 perished also - When they were just on
 the point of starting to the Eastward, it cleared off
 sufficiently for them to see the "Massachusetts" on
 the wind, close in to the shore standing to the East-
 with barely room to weather the point - which from
 its shape he knew to be Cape East. but she at
 last disappeared in the gloom and he felt sure
 she must have gone on shore unless favoured
 beyond his judgement - It was some consolation
 to know where we were as not one of the natives could
 tell us but Mr P. had seen the land and knew it
 at once - but if they had gone on shore on
 the bold high land that forms the promontory I
 knew nothing short of a miracle could have
 saved them - Considering my intention of visiting
 the wreck in the morning (It was then about 8 PM
 and dark as Hagar) If I could muster sufficient
 clothing I wished him to inform all of the
 crew that were able that we might try and save

something I only too eat. so bidding me good night he retired, and I lay down and fell a sleep after being covered over with skins, by one of the women.

It was not long before I awoke to my utter sense of wretchedness and woe and all night long I lay and tossed, with the full conviction that the plagues of Egypt were swarming in bed with me. There was no escape! I was beset from all quarters, and the agony of that night will never be effaced from my mind. If I live to be as old as Methuselah - I felt I was being devoured alive, and wished I had shared the fate of those whose curies were past, so horrible was the torture.

It seemed as though morning never would come but when eventually it did, it brought no relief. The storm shrieked and howled outside, as it swept past, filling all space with the driving snow and the outside door was blocked up to the top with the drift. This was soon shovelled away however by some of the men who had collected during the night, ^{they} entering inside the room where I was, soon were regaling themselves with a breakfast of raw walrus meat that half putrid dispersed a horrible stench throughout the place.

Some was offered me when I felt as though I could have murdered the brute for his assurance, but with the feeling came the thought that it ultimately would be my fate to be obliged to submit to such fare - horrible as the food was, I could not shake it off, it haunted me so that I longed to start for the ship, to try to save something I could eat. Making signs to that effect - a variety of garments were brought to light - from which I managed to make a selection that would puzzle a Bond Street Tailor to emulate, and over all, drawing on 2 of their waterproof coats, made from the Walrus intestines. I announced myself as ready to start with them - The natives were all clad in reindeer skins, of whom there were some 4 or 5 -

one of ^{them} ~~which~~, a short thick set personage aged, Black and dirty. laid his hand upon his breast and said several times "Accomme," "Accomme," and then placing it upon mine, said, Capt. Capt. with a most spontaneous flow of language and waving of arms from which I inferred it was his name, that he was chief I could readily infer ^{where} from the tone of command he assumed, and that this was his house, also that I was to live with him and he was to provide for me. — As he had rather pleasant features, and seemed so well disposed I could but readily acquiesce and intimated my perfect resignation to his wishes as best I could by signs and expression, which seemed to greatly satisfy him, so saying something in an undertone to one who I took to be his son and who drove me up to the house yesterday he took down from one of the rafters of the house, a bundle of Seal skin dog harnesses and disappeared outside, in the snow. presently I heard loud tones of command and saw a group of dogs attached to a sleigh trying to force an entrance through the door in spite of the efforts of the driver, who frantic with rage jumped upon the leaders with a force that buried them beneath the snow completely.

Accomme grasped a billet of wood some 4 or 5 feet in length and striking right and left soon caused a change of base among them, and with the assistance of the women soon had all in order, and ready for the journey. Seating himself upon a deer skin that covered the rude sort of sled he motioned me to sit behind him, and in a moment we were whirling along over and through the snow that completely covered everything beneath it. — Numbers of others all bound the same way were observed and soon a long trail of some 30 or 40 were in line, we leading. with all the drivers, whooping and beating the dogs with force enough to kill them, it seemed to me

but I did not then know the amount of that sort of thing they could endure, as my practical experience taught me afterwards;—

In the course of 1/2 an hour we, reached the site of the wreck cold and exhausted, almost where of all the sad sights I ever saw that made the most impression. My little home and all ^{our} hard wrought wealth, scattered, to the winds and waves. — Talk of melancholy and depression of spirits; here it was to felt!!! — An abandoned ship, stranded, dismantled, and shorn of all her stately beauty, a waif upon the waters of the Arctic Sea. — My home for 19 months, to a day — the only means of transportation to those so anxiously looking for her now broken into fragments, by the angry waves. — Endeared from long association as only a sailor can appreciate, broken and scattered, for miles by the insistent rollers that come crashing upon the shores with a voice of thunder and with a violence that nothing the feeble efforts of man can construct to withstand, — washing away piece by piece the remnants of as pretty a barge as ever showed canvas in these seas, receding to gather fresh impetus, seemingly to dash to atoms, this presumptuous craft that dare defy their power. — Sad, sad is the spectacle, and sadder still, the hearts of those whose forlorn and destitute condition, force them to reflect upon what might have been and what now is —

The masts and bowsprit were all broken off from the hull, or what now remained of it. The rigging still being attached to the port side, had ranged them along the shore with the remnants the greater portion of which was buried beneath the foamy shore but every wave washed them to and fro as it advanced or receded. The cabin gangway and Deck got held together, and were plainly to be seen. but every huge sea that swept over them, sawing them to and fro as though on a pivot — being partially detached from

they hull beneath, that was shattered and submerged
 Amid the stones and sand - the whole of which
 was washed many feet higher up the beach.

No one dared to venture near enough to board
 but constantly with every sea article, of all descriptions
 were washing up and the natives, men, women &
 children, securing them. For miles the beach ^{away} was
 strewn with the debris, which long and narrow
 was in certain places washed completely over into
 the lagoon beyond perhaps 100 yards distant - a
 case or two of axes and hatchets had been found
 and as fast as a cask was thrown up the natives
 were the natives that possessed them, they would
 recklessly chop into them, to find their contents.
 In this way hundreds of barrels of oil were wasted
 that ran out and mingled, its contents with the
 raging waves forming an immense slick along
 the coast line, but the current setting along the
 shore to the East some 3 miles per ^{hour} rendered it
 of little advantage in securing anything.

Meeting some 8 or 10 of my Officers, and
 crew here who had come down in my train
 but who were so completely metamorphosed in
 their costumes, that I had failed to recognize them
 until then, we commenced to search for provisions
 among the many casks that lined the shore.
 We managed to secure at first 2 casks of Biscuit
 one of Flour, one of Sugar, one of Molasses, one
 of Peas, and two of currants, with part of a
 cask of Rum. This I was about to knock the
 head out of and destroy it for fear of trouble.
 When Accoume, who had been with us all
 the time, gave me to understand it would not
 be troubled, as he put his totem upon it and
 gave it in charge of a native to watch still, I
 had my doubts about it and made up my mind if
 a raid was made upon it. The day I had should
 spoil their appetites, as too well I knew their fondness
 for it. Cautioning my own party we attempted to roll
 our provisions together, but our efforts were futile.

they were too heavy and pointing them out to announce I was giving to understand, they were all safe.

I had now become pretty much used up with the cold and fatigue attendant upon the exertions & sought a rest on the sea side, of some casks ^{where} I had a chance to overlook matters more at leisure. The snow and sleet had ceased but the wind was a high gale and on that exposed part of the coast there was but little shelter to be found and one could not remain quiet long. I had given the natives to understand that what we saved we wanted for ourselves. The rest they were welcome to as well as I could by signs, and had told them of the tobacco on board of which there was quite a ton. This caused them to redouble their exertions, but I believe not a particle was found. Whalebone and blubber seemed the next most desirable articles, and as we had taken 11 whales and the last had not been boiled out they reaped a rich harvest. Everyone seemed to be on his own account and they made the most of it as it doubtless was the richest windfall that ever came to their hands before. It was now growing towards the latter part of the day and naturally I felt hungry having eaten nothing since 7 A.M. on the day before; so I began to look around. I knew if I opened a cask of bread it would vanish as soon as they got a sight of it. So I turned, when in my wanderings I found a cask of salt Beef packed in tallow had been thrown on the beach and scattered abroad. The lumps of tallow frozen hard as ice and as white as the surrounding snow they looked too tempting to a hungry man - selecting the least objectionable that probably weighed $\frac{1}{2}$ a pound I ate it with a better relish than I had anything for months before - retracing my steps afterwards I found 2 frozen onions and a few tins of preserved meats. The first I ate also and a portion of one of the latter. They secreted the others for the time,

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

They were all like, Ice itself but with the aid of my axe and pocket knife, I managed to appease my ^{hunger} cravings, so much so that I felt perfectly satisfied with the result. Meeting Mr. Levens and Price, just after, I directed them, to my restaurant where they both enjoyed their first feed in Siberia. The natives fell to upon the blubber and the quantity they disposed of was sickening to behold.

Going towards the wreck I saw 2 natives, dragging my camphor wood trunk, out of the surf and on my making signs, it was mine they gave it up to me and placed it beside the ruin cask in charge of the natives. Fortunately it had too strong a lock for them, to force open as the deep dents of the helve of an axe, showed the attempt had been made before I saw them.

Private property they seemed willing to give up to the claimant. If you saw it but they did not. In many instances, trouble themselves to hunt the owners up beyond my books and ships papers there was little else. In this, as I had removed all my required clothing into the bag that I had my chronometer, in that I've never seen since I left it in the gangway yesterday.

Charts and books between the beach and plane all ruined by the action of the waves and water so no effort was made to save them. In one place I came upon a quantity of flour in a pile, where the cask that contained it had been forced open by the natives, who seeing the bag rent themselves open for the calico they were made of which they did know the use of and had scattered the flour about that they did not.

Calling the men together and having the reports confirmed, regarding those missing we came to the conclusion we would abandon all further effort for the day and again assemble tomorrow to divide our little store. We had found nothing for several hours and were all wet and tired out and cold enough quite - as the snow

9 Fleet had commenced to drive again with blinding
fores - returning they way we came we found the
body of James Munn. I had seen yesterday stark &
stiff in the embrace of death. poor fellow his
troubles are all over but what a death!

My trunk, the cask of Rum and a few cans of meat
that had been found were also brought up to the
house and placed inside, and in spite of the tem-
peratures of last night I dove for the sleeping apartment for
warmth and shelter, where an agreeable temperature
was soon found - Whale meat and Walrus fat were
served hot to the Inuit who had bid me welcome
and some was offered me but I had no appetite
for anything short of tallow, so I declined.

Stripping off my outer garments, as the natives
did, I drew close up to the lamp and commenced
to write the events of the day. In one of my dresses, I
had found comparatively dry in my wanderings.
The entire crowd of natives, in the house ceased
eating the moment I commenced and crowded
around me in open mouthed wonder that never
ceased until the movements of my pencil ended and
I had closed the book. They had never probably seen
anybody write before and had gathered around
so uncomfortably close that I certainly was obliged
to discontinue my attempt for the nonce -

Falling back to their supper they had neglected
so long. I fell to studying their manners and
actions, that were so novel and repulsive to me.

The children, of whom there were two a boy and
girl of about 3 and 5 years of age seemed afraid
while their intensely black eyes were extended to
their utmost with wonder and amazement at
this strange intruder, the like of whom they had never
seen before. as they peered forth from behind their
mother, who had conferred such a benefit upon my
nearly frozen feet yesterday. the poor gave me to
understand her name was "Emalunga" her boy's was
"Cintatoo" and the girl's "Cintinga" that she was the
wife of "Recommu" - the mother of his eldest son whose

and copper bracelet upon her arm may descent to
 they will commence to sharpen it by drawing the
 edge across it with a skill and rapidity that would
 astonish the butchier. In Washington Market - showing
 the result of long practice, and perfect familiarity -

Next seizing a piece of whale blubber some 18 inches
 in length by 4 in breadth, which probably would
 weight 8 or 10 lbs and perfectly rigid with frost she
 commences first by dividing it in 3 narrow strips
 next thin slices, which as it has the black skin upon
 it looks tempting in its contrast of black and white.
 Taking up a handful after eating the first slice herself
 she gives it a dexterous cast along the center of the
 tray from end to end - where immediately a score of
 fingers are introduced, causing them to disappear one
 by one in a twinkling with a series of snarls and
 grunts that resemble famished wolves more than
 human beings. O all the time, sheering away as
 though her life depended upon it and picking
 up what she can meanwhile for herself until all
 had disappeared in a twinkling very few minutes.
 All trace having vanished, except the grease she now
 upon her knees reaches her hand down to the far
 end, and with her fingers nails raises the entire
 length of the dish until the most of it has been
 gathered in one place which she gulps down at a
 mouthful and after carefully sucking her fingers
 clean as the procept will allow takes next a piece
 of walrus meat just warmed through brought from
 the outside by one of the unnamed servants in a
 most comfounded dirty looking wooden basin - this
 goes through the same operation, until the entire
 lot some 15 lbs has also disappeared. Then she
 takes procept again. Another dish is now introduced
 that perhaps holds a peck of dirty looking leaves not
 unlike those of the strawberry matted together with
 seal oil the rancidity of which permeates through
 all adjoining space - this is tumbled into the large
 dish same ceremony. While the combined attack
 upon it more than equals a mizzel clambake - taking

about ^{table} ~~the~~ after that demonstration, those that may
 they know nothing at all about it, and never will until
 they witness the same performance that would require
 the pencil of a Hogarth to portray or the efforts of a
 Portuguese wine, lost to emulate the uncouth sound
 the nearly every key of the gamut - one of the great
 unwashed, with his face and fingers glistening
 In the imperfect light - like a lubricated, pumpkin
 seizing a handful held it above the chapeau-like
 entrance, to his face, exclaiming "Scapie, Masnika"
 relaxed his grasp and as the delicate morsel
 disappeared, had another already to follow its
 predecessor to its fate - each one seeming to try
 their utmost to excel the other, in their rapid movement
 finally this was disposed of - another scraping
 followed and the dish was thrust underneath
 the screen into the outer part of the house for
 the dogs to clear up who are universally the dish
 washers throughout the country - a wipe of grass
 was now introduced by Enalinger, who, first wiping
 her reeking face and fingers, and then her
 children's, passed it to the nearest - who emulating
 her example passed it to the next and so on until
 all had had their wipe, and the repast being
 ended they stretched themselves around in various
 attitudes, perfectly content with the result and apparently
 indifferent to all, aught themselves - The old chief
 "Accomic" produced a pipe of wood curiously
 inlaid with lead with an immense bowl of the
 same material, and after first inserting a
 small roll of deer hair plucked from the side
 of the apartment inserted it carefully at the
 bottom of the bowl and placing some fine
 cut tobacco upon the top, lighted it, inhaling
 all the smoke until, becoming the pipe itself,
 rolled over backwards and soon by his long
 drawn respirations, denoted, highly pressure deeps
 The two children, in puer naturalibus, crept into
 one corner lying down side by side and soon
 indicated, amateur attempts on the high C - then

little, distended, abdomens, plainly showing their
carrying capacity and ~~curiousness~~ ^{curiousness} to ~~possessities~~ ^{possessions}.

And this, is the clasp of people, fate, has thrown me
among? And this, is the method of life, I am
obliged, to adopt for the winter through, to save my
own, I was the thought that so rapidly arose in my
mind, as I gazed upon them. There, is no other
alternation, I must, do it!!! O, Tempora! O, Mores!!

Emalinga, to complete my loathing for what I had
just witnessed, brought in the remnants of a mutton
can, and made signs for me to eat. but I could
not think of it. My appetite, was over, I felt too
heart sore to make even an attempt, so declining
with many thanks, I took down my Prayer
Book that I had hung above the camp to dry
and sought consolation in a portion of Scripture,
commended by one my thoughts reverted to —

The act excited curiosity, but those awake
maintained, both silence, and distance, as I had
indicated, I was communing with the Great Spirit
above - which seemed to inspire them with awe and
I was left free to my own meditations.

Throwing myself upon the skin, allotted me I
sought to destroy all recollection, in sleep; but this
relief came not with the effort to obtain it. E came
and covered me over with some kind of a skin, a
beaver I think; and then retired, leaving me fully free
to the strangeness of my surroundings —

The roaring of the gale without, the rattling
and flapping of the hides covering the house,
and above all the ceaseless ~~biting~~ ^{biting} of the insects
constantly annoyed me. The smelt of the lamps with
their rancid oil and smoke, rendered my repose
ought but soothing and the long expected dawn
of day (at last that seemed as though it never would
come brought with it truly the conviction I was
but another "Exile of Siberia". Dressing with the
first glance I had of it I went outside the house
into the snow that was quite 2 feet on the level
still the gale raged from the S.E. and still the

Snow and sleet fell - but not as violently as yesterday -
 The dogs, that had been brouncing outside, snuffing
 the stranger, aroused up from their snow covered
 beds and giving themselves a shake moved off
 to a respectful distance, with a haughty that betokened
 care - Already the natives were acting in the adjacent
 houses, of which I could at get see but little, although
 they seemed to be of uniform size, and construction.
 A long lagoon just at their rear showed several
 canoes afloat upon it and from the preparations
 being made I judged, that was to be the mode
 of conveyance to the wreck that day as I had
 caught glimpses of its extent occasionally on our
 route, the day before. In the lulls between the
 squalls - Fortifying myself as well as I could from
 the Inclemency of the weather, by additional
 native waterproof coats, after accourence and the
 rest of the household had finished their rear
 meat, we embarked in one of the canoes for the
 wreck. but Instead of paddling as they usually do, a
 long line of walrus hide, was attached to a team of
 some 8 or 10 dogs who tracked us along the inner
 shore of the beach towards our destination, a sort
 of canalizing on a miniature scale. The canoes
 which were light and flat bottomed, made of walrus
 hide, stretched tightly over a wooden frame faultlessly
 lined, offered but little resistance, and the shelter
 of the narrow beach between us and the sea side
 protected us much from the driving snow
 and moving at the rate of some 5 miles we in
 the course of an hour arrived at the site -

The beach here was completely covered with
 sails, spars, coils of rope portions of the hull
 and many casks that had been brought over
 from the site of the wreck by the natives who
 had worked all night at it. Hurrying across
 to the sea line, I was soon at the scene of
 operations. Now truly the "Vapin" was a wreck
 in its most literal interpretation - Nothing now
 remained of the hull but fragments, except the

the poop, which, had become detached, from the lower portion, that had disappeared, and was driven up to the very edge of the expended breakers that lapping the coast as far as we could see seemed hungry enough from their immense size, to swallow a world. Hundreds of natives, of all ages and sizes were assembled around, searching for treasures the sea had cast up upon the pebbles of the beach. Nothing could be seen off shore except the white crests of the toppling waves shrouded in impenetrable mist and gloom no line of demarcation discernable through the fierce blinding snow.

Hurrying to the place where our provisions had been left I found a change also had occurred here. The 2 casks of brand had been cut into with axes the contents of the largest some 350 gallons completely removed out of sight forever? The sugar cask was missing, both heads, and lying upon its side, while several children were scraping out of the seams the few morsels remaining. The cunauts also seemed to have taken wings, at nearly every native I met was munching them, and saying "Musiuka" which I interpreted to my sorrow as good. The pens were likewise mutilated, or the cask that contained them was, but it was evident from the loose quantity lying near they were not cunauts, or clasped in that category. The flour would have likewise, have soon moved also had not I arrived, in time to rap a fellow over the head that was coolly ripping open the bags and mixing it with the snow in larger quantities than seemed desirable to me. as I seemed inclined to follow up my salutation he dropped the bag he had, took to his heels and left me master of the situation. I then attempted to remonstrate with, accoun on such proceedings. but the only consolation I received was "Hoak, Hoak," an expression of sorrow or sympathy I knew not which. Some of my men appearing just then, I left them in charge with

my axe, to stand sentry over the remnants, some 10 bags.
 I felt then, If I had had the power there would have
 been few ^{left} to mourn the departure of the mass as I
 could have annihilated every beast among them,
 but I was powerless to act - and submission was, the
 only alternative - Nearly every native I met had
 either an axe or a hatchet, saved from the ship
 and seemed to possess an insatiable desire to
 try them upon every foreign article they met. I
 thought of Washington and his jack knife, but there
 was little time for musing. Unexpectedly I came
 upon a native, with a trunk of linen of which
 he had just burst open and had commenced
 to ransack. I threw a pair of thought to 8th
 heavy cowhides ^{at him} alternately, that convinced him
 he had made a mistake in his claim, as he
 withdrew muttering threats of unmitigated
 vengeance and showing his long knife that
 he did ^{not} care to use. owing to "accidental"
 presence who laughed heartily at the transaction
 but I could see I had made an enemy of him
 that at this time gave me little trouble, I was
 so vexed and actually aching to shake somebody.
 Turning it over to a who in turn gave it to a
 native, to watch over we wandered on and stranger
 to say nearly everything we met just about there
 was my own personal property - valuable of course
 but still familiar. My feather bed, mattress, and
 pillows, had been rent open the contents
 scattered, while they took adorned some bundle
 or other, strolling about in his display of an
 improvised shawl to the admiration of the less
 fortunate crowd. hats, boots & shoes took their part
 and about everything there was in my cabin
 was to be seen here and there, among them
 whatever I saw I wanted, I seized upon which
 was quietly given up. One fellow who was
 making himself peculiarly obnoxious by strolling
 around with the gilt frame of a Photographs
 group that had adorned my cabin around his

gave me to understand, he had broken the glass out for this purpose so wrenching it off over his ear. I broke it up before him, giving him to understand had he brought it to me I would have bought it whether he understood all or not I cannot say but he laughed at me for breaking it up.

Presently one of my men came saying a number of letters and papers of mine were lying in the snow a short distance from us going to the spot I found the contents of my writing desk there. The desk was not to be found but there were some of the articles that were in it when I left the ship. I had been on the lookout for it as it contained papers of value and had hoped to have found it intact. but the brass findings were too much temptations for the savages and I was too late - collecting what there was left - this only thing I could find to wrap them up in was a piece of the haircloth of my sofa that had shared the fate of my bed but had been rejected afterwards as worthless, this was left with the bread cask for the time, and I went to the pool around which were clustered many natives, who were plying shovels and axes in their search for treasures beneath. I had during my trading on the opposite coast secured a number of valuable furs and the first thing I saw on reaching the place was a native dragging out from among the mounds a silver gray fox skin that looked more like a bedraggled rat than anything I could compare it to. Several others were also brought to light but as they were ruined I made no effort to save them - but seeing some Sanguine boys in the hands of several of them I sent for all of my force present and driving the natives away set them at work to find them. There was in one of the looks left a quantity of meat fish & other things which were found and divided as far as they would go among them. My second meal was made here in company with

my Officers, under the lee of a cask off of some of these. A quantity of new Pilot-Clutch Coats were also found and decided, also that were much required but as they were all wet and full of sand they were useless there. - In this way the greater part of the day was spent. In searching for articles of use, when night coming on we returned to the canoe with the remainder of the bread and flour. The Peas were decided, out there, among the men the Molasses we could not find - returning to the huts with canoes heaped full of all the avails of the ^{native} could collect in this shape of articles we sailed back with sails made of skin also before the wind which was fair - Arriving everything was distributed among the men assembled but some were without clothing and some badly frozen that were unable to appear, those living near them were entrusted with them and strictly charged by myself to deliver it. I could not take it on my charge at the moment it entered the door. It could not be removed as I was given to understand by A who seemed to have a little reason about such matters, in explaining to my ignorance of their customs, the best he could.

To the best of my knowledge and belief not an ounce ever reached those, it was sent to - and those who were the first to cry out against the acts of the natives, only too soon followed the example set there. In their Inhumanity to their dependents such are sailors, and such they ever will be!!! -

The chief Officer, a man of most scandalous temperament; vulgar, and profane - having through the connivance of the natives, he was living with a chief of note, second in rank, and brother of Accoomac, secured a quantity of the missing provisions, without the knowledge of the other Officers, was detected in this act by the second, and would have received at his hands the drubbing he so richly merited, had I not interfered and prevented it, principally, on account of the natives that would have been involved.

There were others present that were equally Indignant and On that desperate state, they ~~they~~ were in question if he would have escaped with ^{his} life - and he profiting by the momentary restraint disappeared at once - To be guilty of such conduct ~~there~~ and there was quite sufficient provocation for the licensed feelings of the men among whom he was little liked, and whose resentment had only been restrained by the discipline of the ship previously - but fortunately they listened to reason and their better promptings, which enabled him to escape from their vengeance.

On making the division after arriving we found many of the articles we had put in the canoe had disappeared by the pilferings of the natives, as they were landed - My share consisted of one 25th bag of Flour about 20 lbs of biscuit - a box of chocolate, 12 do sardines, and 2 tins preserved mutton - all except the two former articles. It was decided I had better keep in case of sickness that I might smuggle out of the house as best I could - Some of the flour the natives had wasted, had been collected by my men and the small cask of biscuit being divided among them rendered them much more content than they had been previously - This arrangement over I felt it incumbent upon me to call upon 3 of my poor fellows who were reported to have frozen their feet viz George Gordon, Cook, & Lewis Kenway Seaman - and James Ferdinand a Goatstewer - I found them suffering considerably but not so bad as I had expected - the poor fellows cried like children when they saw me but kept them beyond advice and some linen shirts for bandages I could not - Not a particle of medicine was saved - and the natives had no knowledge of cure beyond bathing them in seal oil which gave little relief - supplying them a few mouthfuls from my small store after my return to the house - I retired for the night with similar results to the previous ones -

In the middle of it however I was

startled by the most unearthly howlings I had ever
 heard - All the dogs in the village had joined in
 concert - until it became a perfect pandemonium -
 Talk of making night hideous, after that experience of
 perhaps 20 minutes one would wish to hear it
 but once to remember it for a lifetime - what
 it all meant I knew not but as the natives sleeping
 around me were not disturbed, I concluded it
 was of common occurrence - rousing up at the
 dawn of day feeling more tired from my exertions
 during the night than from those of the day before
 I dressed and ransacked the outer part of the house
 for some biscuit and sardines, which, after much
 toil and perseverance I found beneath a pile
 of rubbishy skins covered with the snow that was
 drifting through every aperture in the crazy old
 skin covering of the house - It was too cold to
 eat there, I was obliged to bring back to my den
 where I made an onslaught upon the brand's
 knife in hand - The children, who were having
 their breakfast with the other inmates of the house
 at the other side, seeing my preparations, now
 left their and overcoming their previous fears
 came to me and pointing at the food indicated
 a wish for some, which I gave at once - It did
 not seem a minute before they were back again
 for the same purpose - a smaller share was
 again handed over - but on the third application
 I was deaf; a quarter box of sardines and 2 biscuits
 was small breakfast enough for a half family
 man, but when two little Indian children
 share with him the smaller still! so I thought
 and I quired them altogether, when presto what
 a change in the state of Denmark - the little
 of is laid at full length upon the floor and
 throwing up both hands and feet gave him
 to every note in the scale of the gamut - which was
 brought suddenly to an end by my sending the box
 at the head of the boy and my remaining behind
 at the girl - both missed their mark but they

force of the check convinced them I meant business which caused a rapid change of base with them and they skulked behind their mother while I left for the outside, thoroughly chafed with the idea that to cut in peace I must also be secret. For let me husband my resources as I would I had barely enough to last a month or two at the furthest while if I had to share with these, would not last half of it and when that was gone, where was I to find the necessaries?—joining Accoom and Emulirig we took our canoe again for the wreck where arriving in due course of time with the aid of our trackers, the dogs who several times returned, and wound up with a general row all around—

The sea had subsided considerably and the snow had ceased, but still the gale raged though not with the force of yesterday. It was intensely cold however and I was obliged to make a run of it for a time to restore the circulation, that my cramped condition in the canoe had somewhat retarded—

The natives were as busy as usual about the site. Their attention principally turned to splitting up the spars for house rafters that were taken to the lagoon, rafted and towed up to the town by the dogs that were gathered in hundreds, and when unsatisfied foraging on their own speck. In this manner many pieces of blubber were brought to light from beneath the sand and snow that showed how much keener their sense of smelling was than their owners who seemed to have something of the Hermit in their composition by the way they examined the broken staves of a run barrel, near—

No sooner did the dogs make a raid upon a piece of blubber, than their owners made a raid upon them, bearing off in triumph the much coveted morsel which was usually deposited in some of the empty casks

new - every one seemed busy in transporting articles to the lagoon shores - casks containing rope, new sails - shooke heads - tools (taking in trade during the season) were rolled down, emptied of their contents, and rapidly transferred to the canoes that were being quickly dispatched on the return. All presented bustle and activity while perfect harmony existed throughout - as well it might, for never before in all their lives had such a good send occurred -

Wandering to one side, bent sick, and weary I noticed it was clearing off to the westward, & soon I was enabled to see the outline of the high land some 5 miles distant that had proved so deceptive on the day of my calamity. Bluff, thick and covered with snow it stood boldly out into relief from the haze beyond. The exact counterpart of Cape East that soon appeared also to the East exactly midway between the two we were wrecked upon a long narrow strip of land that connected the two and forms the promontory of Cape East - low and undulating to the south, as far as the eye could trace, but bold and precipitous on either hand when facing the North -

Mentally comparing the two, and condemning the fate that brought me here - I could but have wished the Ice which every previous season had lined its approach some 40 miles off shore had been here this for although it would have shattered my ship, considerably, as I could not have seen it in time to avoid it, get it was possible, I could have forced my way into it to have avoided the heaviest of the swell and eventually been swept out through the straits by the current - but as it was to be I could see no use of repining. One thing was certain to my mind, I was in for the winter and should have to make the best of it as I could -

Meeting some of my men we carefully searched

for more provisions, but excepting a single tierce of salt beef which was divided, there and there we found nothing. A boy came to me with a hauffle a present from my wife, and my hairbrush for which I gave him a pocket knife. and from that time until I left others were constantly running with anything they could find belonging to the ship. If only a piece of a shirt and all asking "Nife" in exchange. That many were doomed to disappointment I need scarcely mention, as not another solitary article was received from them.

Striding after a thorough search there was no more that we wanted, I had about made up my mind to return to the cannots & taking the first that offered, as A and E were busy with the rest hacking with axes upon the flairs. when my attention was drawn to a brother of his before mentioned, upon a dog sled going towards the village laden with spoils. seeing me he beckoned and made signs to take a seat behind him which I was only too glad to do. although this was the wretch that had confisquated with the mate's convenience the greater part of the missing provisions.

We had not proceeded far when to my surprise I found he was half sea's own. where he had obtained his stumulant I did not know unless more spirits had been found at the wreck - but on arriving at his house I saw with surprise a number of barrels of 75 per cent Alcohol. Pacific, Distillery San Francisco branded on the heads. with quantities of cases of "Ohio Axes" with a variety of articles that I knew never came from my ship. pointing to them he mentioned Redfield's "belong" which gave me the clue at once - he was one of Redfield's Native traders, with whom he left articles for exchange of Whalebone and Walrus Ivory every fall and received the next spring.

A woman I took to be his wife with several

77
39

children, was present - as well as 2 younger ones who regarding me most curiously were at the same time twisting some strands of wire rope to make bracelets similar to those worn by Opounga upon the wrists of each were already encircled a dozen or more of which they seemed very proud. Indeed -

Disappearing behind his bedroom for a moment - they were presently returned, with a tin pot half full of Red's meat, in one hand and 2 biscuits in the other, both of which he offered me saying at the time "Masinka" the latter I received willingly, but not so the former, as the utensil was horribly dirty and the ligand looked too much like "Blue Chin" - but seeing he was displeased at my refusal I made a pretence of taking a swallow and returned it to him, which was disposed of in a manner that showed habit and satisfaction. Much to the disgust of his wife who finding he had not left any for her, commenced to rate him in a voice of and manner of a Acreator. It made little impression upon him however ^{any} for coming towards me he threw his arms around my neck and kissing my forehead commenced to cry and exclaim "Hoak" "Hoak" "Capt^{ain} Ship Muckie" releasing me he pointed to his wife who was rating away at the top of her voice and laughed put his forefinger upon his lip and beckoned me outside pointing towards Accommi's house not far distant - and seating himself upon his unladened thigh started back on the run the last I saw of him, he was shouting to his dogs "Dark Dark" while his wife raging with her furious passion, retorted with "Atkin" "Atkin" what they both said I knew perfectly but what they both meant puzzled me quite -

It had now cleared off considerably, the storm was breaking up the gale abating but still the breakers thundered upon the beach with deafening roar - one could see off shore

perhaps I smiled, and long and earnestly did I strain my eyes in search of a sail, but nothing intercepted my gaze except sky and water, and turning my steps towards the house I quickly sought shelter - The days are quite short, not over 8 hours I should think, at the most. but as I have no method of measuring time, I may have imagined them they are short enough however and the nights long enough I find to my sorrow -

Entering the house I found the snow had been carefully swept away - the place cleaned up and in the center swinging upon an immense iron hook, suspended from above over a bright fire of the "Japans" fragments an immense dirty looking kettle, that once upon a time was brass, but what it was now it was hard to say, covered so completely as it was with grease and smoke - In it was something that smelt much better than it looked sending clouds of steam up to the rafters, and around the blaze upon three hams were clustered all the family with some half dozen hungry dogs already to snatch anything they could see, and I believed, were only restrained from bolting kettle and all by the vigorous Hiss, Enalunga, bestowed upon them with a stick, that was nearly as large as a harpoon staff -

Joining the party I proceeded to warm myself the best I could, although, the clouds of smoke issuing about caused me to lament the want of a handkerchief and soon I induced me to resort to the inner room, where I could breathe free at least - Presently I was joined by the rest of the group Enalunga, spreading out a large heavy seal skin on the left side of the smoking lamp, and made signs that was my place for the future, a post of honour. The opposite or right side was Emaliee, who was to assume charge with his new wife, who had just arrived, a very nice looking pair of furniture, named "Aglee" - Accomme lived next house with his youngest wife and child. Now all this I gaped

principally from signs, that seemed to me much more intelligible, from her attempts, than those of the men during this explanation. Emalieie arrived, and at once assuming the dictatorial. The savory mess I had seen outside, was introduced, which proved to be fresh deer meat-boiled, with some kind of savory herb that certainly diffused a most fragrant aroma as it lay heaped upon the long shallow tray before us, & a smaller dish of what looked more like Sea Cream than anything else - was placed by the side of it, and all gathering around. "Opounga" commenced talking it up as above described. I was invited to partake with them, but declined, until "Emalieie" brought me a piece of the hunch, fat and juicy. Taking my knife, and carefully cutting off the outside (which by the way was gobbled up by the first that could reach the bits, as I placed them on the tray) it looked too tempting to refuse so I went for some biscuit-gave all a small piece, and commenced my first Esquimaux meal. The white substance, I saw was deposited by handfuls upon the center of the tray, where each one took a pinch, with their fingers, with their slices of meat. A handful was brought me which after serving the same as the flesh I found to be a mixture of snow and the hot fat of the deer that chilled, made a very good substitute for butter, sweet and as palatable as the meat which I confess if I had not seen the preparations of I could have eaten heartily of it, but a few mouthfuls, sufficient, and the remainder passed back disappeared in a twinkling before the voracious man of Emalieie, who eat like a famished wolf.

This all cleared away the same courses I have before described, were gone through, and cleared off to a crumb. The young chief eating twice the proportion of the others. - Expressing a wish for water by a sign of thirst. he ordered "Agchee" to bring me some; arising the product a rude sort of wooden tub placed upon a rude stool

of their legs in the far corner of the room that I had noticed her putting large pieces of ice into just before and removing a piece of board from the top, clipped out a tin pot full and brought one holding her left hand palm upmost underneath to catch the falling drops - holding it to the lamp for a moment I saw it was covered with the short hairs that are constantly dropping from the skins above. (hence the necessity of a cover) removing them with a spoon from the mess & had found today I found a very few swallows of that also sufficed. - In time it was filled, and passed to nearly every member of the family "Cicutato" the youngest boy drinking his quart like the rest, cold as it was.

The Ice is brought to the house by some of the Inferior natives, from the adjacent hills, then transferred to the tub where the natural warmth of the apartment soon reduces it to a liquid that condensed on the outside of the container runs into a shallower tub that is emptied back as it fills. I notice they are very careful not to spill a drop on the skins, as apparently they have an aversion from all appearance of coming in contact with their persons apart from their lips.

After all was over, the skins that had been rolled up and deposited outside during the day were brought in and spread for the night on the outside edge of the room where they all speedily stretched out side by side for the night. but I preferred to remain on the opposite side where I was reclining with my feet towards theirs.

I noticed along the front part the entire length a raised piece of wood, some 5 or 6 inches above the level of the floor outside of which the skin screen that formed that side of the room hung from above with its lower edge upon the ground floor of the outer part of the house. this always has to be raised from beneath for either ingress or egress to the room.

The quantity of steam, escaping at the time, as the cold air from without rushes in to fill the vacuum is surprising to behold - and as the apartment is perfectly air tight it is the only method of ventilation they have - The raised piece of wood acts as both pillow and threshold, and as they sleep they lay with their heads either inside or outside the skin screen referred to -

Attempting to read I was so tormented by the vermin, that I was forced to abandon ~~the~~ ~~idea~~ at once, and the misery of that night equalled the tortures of the Inquisition. I scratched and rubbed and I believe swore once, so horrible was the annoyance. It seemed I was being eaten alive, and I thought if that was to continue, my chance of surviving the winter was small indeed - every bite of these mammoth insects raised a welt as large as a pea and the itching sensation soon caused my fingers to remove about all the epidermis I had around my loins. I thought of Libby Prison, but cannot believe it ever produced such iron clad wipers, as these who seemed like small shrimps, from the feeble rays of the lamp: how many bearded men I've no idea but certainly they seemed to come like snow, in battalions - and every one I saw was coming towards me from every direction - despatches must have been issued with the general Order and the promptitude and alacrity of attention spoke well for the discipline ^{and morality} of the Corps. Have we a Wellington among us? was my natural inquiry although, still I doubt concerning I felt the assurance that if they had, they had a soft thing on the "Man in white" all alone in the dark. The chamber of my companions appeared more profound from the deep toned nasal intonations, that vied with the unearthly howling of the beastly dogs outside, and it was only when one of the Patagonians reassaulted them that a movement apart from the farcical muscles even

observed. In this way my night was passed, catching now and then a nap; lying still, just long enough for the beach to be stormed and then awakening with a start that probably scattered the fumes and my senses as well at the time.

Friday, October 14th 1870.

Waking with the first indications of day dawn I dressed went outside, with feelings of infinite satisfaction that I had survived the night. Looking towards the N.E. I saw the prospect of seeing the sun shine for the first time since our arrival. And mentally I resolved to muster sufficient force to bury poor Nemo, who had all this time been lying where he fell although covered completely from sight with the snow.

Although the wind was light from the N.E. It was still very cold, and to keep up the circulation I strolled to the beach some 50 yards distant, where the swell having subsided, several canoes were being launched for the purpose of searching along the beach ^{for whale bones} and other articles of value the sea might have washed up with the recent gale from this wreck - watching them part off I turned back and for the first time saw the village distinctly - counting 40 houses arranged in a parallel along the highest summit of the beach of uniform size and shape. I saw they were all the exact counterpart of the one I was living in - made of long commercially placed poles, covered with deer skins sewn neatly together that formed one complete covering with the hair inside. A small opening in the top permitting the smoke to escape from several that were making preparations to eat and through which bustling like a Chevon de frige the ends of the rafters were protruding outside of the skins were lashing of walrus hides running crosswise to the lower end of which were attached immense heavy stone and fragments of whale bones suspended just above the ground to prevent the gales from

blowing them away, while, dogsleds, seal spearis, and many other articles that I knew not the use of, were hanging along the ~~coast~~ some 4 or 5 feet from the ground - crowds of natives were assembled outside with a multitude of dogs that generally took to their heels as their masters approached them with harpoon in hand to attach them to their sleds for a trip to the ship, again - With a few stones thrown to the East was the bold precipitous cliffs of the mountains of Cape East - some 60 feet in perpendicular, while a sort of level plateau of gently rising and perhaps a mile in extent stretched to the higher rugged peaks that formed the promontory of Cape East some 300 feet in height totally covered with snow and looking about as barren and sterile as the mind could conceive. Not a vestige of even a scrub-bush appeared and down the sides of the cliffs, several streams were rushing, that emptied into the head of the lagoon at their base. Scattered several black rugged rocks reared their heads above the water, still angry with their emotion, which extending several hundred yards off shore plainly showed had we struck there, not a soul would have survived - To the south of the lagoon here for a mile in width stretched a long undulating plain that at a distance of some 8 miles indicated the coast was swept by the waters of the straits while the high land to the E ran along like an immense wall the entire distance - To the N appeared a series of soft mountains marking the coastline in that direction that were lost in the distance towards "St Lawrence Bay"

This was to be my winter quarters, and those of my men, shut out from the outside world for 8 long weary months with no earthly power of communication - This was the town of "Owalin" and its miserable squatted

specimens of humanity my associates and companions perhaps forever to me - Oh! horrible! horrible! the contemplation that rendered me nearly desperate enough to take my life - Like ~~later~~ could I have cried out "My punishment is greater than I can bear" Let me die at once - But this faint whisper of Hope was borne to me from afar and faint as it seemed I thought I would try and be resigned & struggle with the inevitable fate before me -

Making my breakfast of Biscuit and water I proceeded to visit the different houses for the purpose of notifying my intentions regarding burial and to know for certain who were the survivors and how many there were of them - taking their names I found this information I had received was correct regarding those lost. The survivors were

1 Edward W. Irving - Chief Mate	Native of	Sydney N.S.W.
2 William Lewis - Second "	"	Trayal, W.S.
3 Aaron Price - Fourth "	"	Norfolk Island
4 William H. Lee - Cooper	"	Berzonia W.S.A.
5 Peter Ferdinand Goatsman	"	Cape De Verde
6 John Otago	"	Callao
7 John M. Gilly	"	Guam
8 Edward Cooke	"	Bay of Islands
9 Remus Ferdinand	"	Australia
10 George Gordon - Cook	"	St Thomas, W.S.
11 Albert Solberg - Seaman	"	Stockholm
12 Martin Knutsen	"	Norway
13 John Grant	"	Belfast
14 William Scott	"	London
15 Joseph Joyce	"	Glasgow
16 Lewis Kenway	"	Bridport - Eng
17 David Wilkinson	"	Liverpool
18 James Adams	"	London
19 John Wilson	"	Lyttleton, N.Z.
20 Hugh Hardy	"	Glasgow
21 William H. Price	"	London
22 John Roberson	"	Apia Samoa
23 Jack Rotumah	"	Rotumah
24 William Hurd	"	Maine W.S.A.

which, with myself made 25 survivors, hungry and destitute. Of those lost there were 8 of the following names -

Joseph Scholis, 3 ^d Mate,	native of Tasmania,	aged 26
John Grayham - Steward,	" " Edinburgh	" 30
Edmund Miller - Carpenter,	" " Gurnsey	" 31
James Armstrong - Seaman,	" " N. Pool	" 27
Henry Collins,	" " Sydney	" 23
William Walworth,	" " London	" 18
James Muir,	" " Tasmania	" 24
John C. Martin,	" " " — U.S.A.	" 19

I had heard so many rumours from the men of this one being lost, and that one missing and afterwards met the same at the wreck that I had strong hopes of yet seeing them ^{all} alive and well except Muir who I had seen dead. I had doubt, until now after visiting every house in the place

The last seen of Mr Scholis I've mentioned previously. The Carpenter Miller was swept from the house top, the first sea and never again seen -

The Steward, ^{Grayham} was seen struggling in the water between the ship and shore - Collins reached the shore in safety and was lost in attempting to return to the ship - a body seen among the breakers afterwards, was supposed to be his - Martin who was a stoway from the Barque "Hunter" of New Bedford and James Armstrong were supposed by their shipmates to have been drowned in the fore-castle, as they never came upon deck -

No one but Muir ever received a Christian burial and as the ground was so frozen that we could only manage to excavate a grave some 2 feet in depth as nothing would induce any of them to lend us an iron shovel they were so superstitious, although several were in their possession, saved from the ship. The only thing we could muster was a wretched spade made by the natives from a portion of a whale's shoulder blade, with a wooden handle lashed to it with strips of walrus hide. The 8th chapters of Romans, and the Lord's Prayer were read over him from my Prayer book - and covering him over

we placed the largest stones we could find, at his head and feet. and noted the spot. The highest elevation on the beach about midway between ship and village. The crows and dogs had scratched away the snow and mutilated the exposed portions of his body - but lying as he fell with his face down resting upon his arm, his countenance was gentle, natural although his form was like marble. From some of the men I hear he has a daughter living in Auckland N.Z. - She was a quiet - unassuming little fellow - but lacked energy - on board ship always seemed to suffer much from the cold weather and when he gave up and laid down to die, the rest who were with him, tried to induce him to go on, but fearful they would also perish if they lingered they pushed on and left him to his fate. Poor fellow his sufferings are over and I sincerely trust he is better off than we are -

Returning from our mournful task, about 12 we were each individually obliged, to brush off the imaginary taint upon the refuse heap at the rear of the house before permitted to enter again. The shovel was broken up and thrown into the sea.

Pausing at the houses where those that were disabled lived, I found them much the same. Their feet were much swollen and seflamed and the few moments past there were were spent in trying to cheer them up with hopes of the future, although God knows I had but little myself. Still, to comfort them, I listened to their stories of marvelous escape of life as indeed we all had - when we were wrecked. Of course each had a marvelous ^{one} escape and a marvelous method of describing it - Extraordinary assistance rendered to a struggling shipmate by their side and all that - but as I know it each man had as much as he could do to save his own skin at the time. One poor fellow, Dennis, seeing me strip off my heavy coat and throw it away when we first struck, stripped off all of his, and reached

they shore naked as he was born. Some of the men managed to give him shirt and pants that they stripped off themselves, having on two suits, which probably saved his life. But how different was the action of Mr Scott (as Mr Price relates) "having on an oil skin suit, he by some fortunate circumstance managed to get on shore very little wet except his feet, and after drying them at the fire of the first house they reached that the natives built for them; he attempted to return to the ship, passing Miner, who lay where he fell; he saw he had life in him, and instead of taking the little fellow on his back which he could easily have done. he left him helplessly to his fate, and finding he was not able to stand, so cold a walk turned back when half way to the ship, and on again passing him found him still alive but came back alone. I say he easily could have carried him. If he had chosen for both Mr P and Scum, the second officer, had backed a man each for quite a mile to the huts, that had succumbed to the cold and refused to go further just before that. I shall never efface the impression that if the attempt had been made the poor little fellow might now be among us alive, and well - but perhaps his sufferings were nothing to what may be in store for us -

Seeing some of the canoes returning from the Eastward, around the high land of the cape I walked down to the beach and waited for them. It was now nearly calm the sun was out bright and a decidedly change had occurred in the atmosphere - one could stand still without shivering for a few moments.

As there was considerable wash upon the shore. quite enough to have upset a boat, I was curious to see how they would land without accident. Coming up abreast, one they ceased paddling and lay broadside to the shore just at the outburst of the breaker's watching for a favorable

opportunity which occurred just after the three heaviest rollers. When they commenced paddling sideways until inside the line, when on they came on the outer edge of the crest that crashing upon the beach scattering spray far and near left them upon the stones as well when every man jumped out and dividing into two parties seized upon long troughs of hide rope firmly attached at each extremity of the canoe which they held as firm as possible while seated upon the beach in parallel rows, with legs extended into the air to permit the water to escape from their long tapered boots of seal skin that had been overflowed. The canoe was so light that the small resistance of the wave enabled them to hold her on that position until they next came when she was drawn out of all danger and quickly relieved of a quantity of bone they had found in different bights along the coast where the waves had washed it up upon the rocks ragged at the butt and quite void of the long flowing hair on the inner edge. This completed she was turned bottom up, beaten with paddles to remove all the pieces of ice clinging and then raised upon the shoulders of the natives carried to the highest elevation in front of the houses and deposited. On that position some 8 feet from the ground upon a rest formed with perpendicular posts of the jaw bone of the bowhead whale planted firmly in the ground with horizontal strips of old ship timber lashed to them upon which the canoe rested, a number of these rude structures extended along the entire front of the village perhaps 3/4 of a mile in extent upon which I counted 18 canoes.

Another that had just landed contained "Accoume" who hastening with several others towards me commenced to chatter away and make signs that at first I did not comprehend at all but finally one lying down at full length upon the snow with his head upon his arm with hand

raised high in the air forming sleep I came to the conclusion they had seen one of the bodies of my drowned men and that was the position he laid in - That it was either one of my crew there, was no doubting or one of the "Massachusetts", there, was no doubting but as we had heard or seen nothing of her since we were wrecked, I was inclined to think it was one of my men.

The last I saw of the ^{"Thale"} ~~myself~~ she was perhaps 1/2 a mile to the SW of me and I hoped sincerely she had escaped by seeing my position in time to haul sharp on the wind and pass clear - After she came round the Cape I knew she could make a good lee and lay safe at anchor with the wind as it was until she was froze out on the south side of it some 8 miles only from this town where another village was with natives in constant communication with this a note sent by one would have reached me in 2 hours and in 24 every survivor might have been saved.

If I had paid no more attention to her before my accident - that she did to me afterwards, I should have been some 20 miles further east in the morning and the first land made would have been the Diomed Islands, where I should have been comparatively safe from danger.

Of course it seems an easy assertion to make here, but had our positions been reversed I ~~never~~ would have left the coast without making strenuous efforts to rescue or have satisfied myself ^{that} all were lost with this vessel. ~~But~~ Humanity prompts a man to do as he would wish to be done by - and as "blood is stronger than water" I feel quite sure there were few others like the fleet that would so heartlessly abandon us as Capt Foot of the "Massachusetts" did - even if he had been obliged to have kept on to St Lawrence Bay some miles distant after the gale had subsided, in one day he could have returned without running as much risk as occurs 20 or more times every season, or not choosing to do that by remaining a few days every man could have been transported there.

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

by the natives - Almost one days journey and if we had been obliged, could have walked there, rather than chance passing the winter here - There was no ice on the West shore or in the straits then, neither is there now, four days since, nothing in fact to prevent the attempt being made, short of actual cowardice!!!

Four times previous, have I ran the gauntlet through those straits, in October, and alone in safety - this fifth I kept company with a vessel and lost my own by it - while the wretches in charge had not sufficient courage or humanity to make the attempt to save the lives of those that would have made the attempt to have saved his - If they peeped as near as Mr P says (and I've no reason to doubt his statement) they must have seen my poor fellow struggling along the beach as he plainly saw the men on her deck - they now having cleared up for a short interval, just then - but the result of selfishness & inhumanity, and my fate, is to pass the most wretched months of my existence here, as from the first moment I discovered my perilous position, something innate impressed me with the idea that I need not trust to him -

My sincere prayer is ^{that} he may never suffer what others have, through his palpable heartlessness and indifference.

I shall now and try to keep a daily record of events, as they transpire, as best I may, although I've but a mere piece of a pencil to write with - Paper and blank books I managed to secure enough from my stocks, washed on shore -

The no method of measuring time, as my watch is ruined - The clock was more than my life was worthy to attempt to save at all - and as I've never seen a vestige of my Chronometer, I suppose they were ground to pieces by the combined action of the waves and ship timbers, as they were dashed upon the beach - and as we have no Thermometer, shall have to guess at the temperature they best we may throughout the winter. —

About 5 P.M. Mr. Linnus came from the high land to the East where he had been searching along the coast with the natives he lived with for relics of this wreck with partial success. On whalebone only taken by lowering each other down upon the rocks at the foot of the cliffs and then clambering back again - and reported seeing a vessel at the entrance of the straits bound out with main royal set. It was then within an hour of night and quite calm, but still quite rising enough to reach her as she was not over 7 or 8 miles distant. Hurrying back to Accomme, I used all my exertions and persuasion of signs and speech to induce him to let me have a canoe to go to her with my men or for him to go with his, with a note to her - or else let me have a dog sled to go across the high low land to the South and there intercept her as she passed through - After a great deal of talk, that neither of us could render intelligible and more waste of time, I managed to interpret to that effect -

First - If we went in the canoe it was so calm and cold that the young ice would make after dark and freeze us in where we were.
Second, If I attempted to go to her by the dog sled, I would freeze as I had not proper clothing or anyone of my men, which was true, among as far as that went, the freezing I was willing to run the risk of -

Third and last that on the arrival of the whaling fleet next spring (a long time to look forward to I thought) the Captains of the other ships would shoot him for not caring better for me - This was the spirit of the whole as myself and Officers understood it; of course we had to imagine some - but it was clear he either could not or would not run any risk of either canoe or man to please me - and I was reluctantly obliged to abandon further efforts as my stock of patience was exhausted and my temper got the mastery of

me. As I suspected, they shrewd old rogue had visions of huge rewards, of Tobacco and Rum as ransome when they fled - did, come, and had no hesitations in giving him to understand, that, was my Idea of the Matter, as it stood. I even threatened, to take a canoe in spite of him, with the help of my men, ^{who} which, he readily understood, and significantly gave me to understand, that, in comparison to my men were to the number of houses in the town so were his, in comparison to the stores, they rested upon which, was figuratively expressed in a manner highly creditable, to himself and equally humiliating to me - Noticing which he laughingly took me by the hand and moving towards his house said "Coo Coo" which is a corruption of Kanacka to eat probably he had heard the expression on board some ship previous and remembering it as the nearest approach to English, he could advance -

Mechanically I followed him, but the thought of rescue being so near and we not able to communicate was the hunderd pang we endured since we been here - but ~~let~~ my fate, and I must be resigned; wisely ordained, no doubt, but who believes it? -

Entering his house which was adjacent to the one I lived, On with Emalirli, I noticed, it was cleaner, neater built, and had a general air of care about it. That was far superior to the other - evidences of Redfield's deposits, seemed to be much on a par with that of his brother, that, we already mentioned - raising the screen of his sleeping room which all the houses have, he bade me enter where I found his wife, and youngest child with a servant, assembled to do the house to the Capt as they styled me "Hoak Cap" said one and "Hoak Cap" said another until I wished they would keep their sympathy to themselves. He now gave me to understand, his wife's name was "Ouboungou" and that his child was "Omugne", they

servants, was of no consequence as she was too old for anything - This wife, was perhaps 20 years of age robust and masculine in appearance with an immense mouth, remarkable white teeth, very even small eyes with the inner corners drawn down towards the mouth and the characteristic high cheek bones of the Tartar feature, her long black coarse hair was braided into a flat and twisted around her head like a Chinaman's tail. While her garment like all the rest of the women I have seen was made of Deer skin, coat and pants in one with a slit from the neck half way to the waist in front to put it on and off this slit was edged with a long white fur that while it had the effect of ornament also protected the chest from the cold air as the edges lapped each other and stood out from her bosom like a ruffled shirt. The sleeves were wide and hanging similarly trimmed, the pants of the bloomer style gathered tightly at the calf with a drawing string met the top of her long boots of draped seal skin that were remarkably small and neat fitting with rude attempts at ornament up and down the leg with different colored skins and tags of twisted cornfortoids, 2 immense brass earrings with a string of colored glass beads some 6 inches in length were suspended from each ear while across her shoulder and back running underneath her left arm were some 2 or 3 dozen circles of variegated colored beads of all descriptions which contrasting with the brown and white mottled garment presented a rather pleasing contrast. Upon her fingers were a number of drugg looking brass rings, some 10 or 15 perhaps while her wrists were encircled with the usual number of Iron, Copper and brass bracelets they are so fond of displaying that with every motion of the arms gave forth their peculiar clanging that was more pleasing to her than any

Added to this, see intensely black eye and a face that
dirty that it never seemed to have known water
and you have an Esquimaux belle to perfection.

The child was perhaps some 10 months old naked
and amusing himself with everything he could
lay his hands upon, dirty not seem to be afraid
of me at all for a wonder, but was such a dirty
little thing that I kept him at a safe distance.

A. saying something to the woman servant, she
went outside, and presently returned with some
cooked deer meat - biscuits - and sugar from the
ship, and a kind of sweet root that A. called
"Gailcombra" which I found quite palatable, and
somewhat resembling the "sweet potatoe". As I was
quite hungry I did ample justice to all that was
placed before me, and shaking hands with A.
retired to my skin couch with the same man
better satisfied than it has been before him.

Sunday 16th October - 1872 -

A fresh N.E. wind and passably clear weather, the
horizon of a leaden hue all around and the
waters of the lagoon only a few steps from the door
of our house completely frozen over - this is quite
7 miles in length by one in breadth which is
nearly uniform throughout, reaching quite
2 miles beyond the site of the wreck - between
this and the sea, runs the entire distance a
narrow belt of shore whose widest part is not
over $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile in some places narrow to less than
 $\frac{1}{4}$ th. Its highest elevation is not over 15 feet and
as it is of most uneven surface in many places
much less - the strong boisterous wind, in heavy weather,
when not protected by the ice, the sea rushes
entirely across with great force into the lagoon
beyond the water of which is salt as the sea
as a narrow inlet exists on the western end
of the water - this low range of land
extends some 10 miles probably from the
high mountains of Cape East to that of equal
altitude to the west, which proved such a fatal

guide to me on the 10th (Travelling over its narrow surface is very dangerous at times, as even dogsleds were abandoned, and the canoes substituted. Instead, the third day after our advent, that have been constantly coming to the village, laden with spoils.

Mr Price who was down yesterday says "the spars that have been cut into suitable lengths have been piled together by the lagoon side to track up with dogs as soon as they see it hard enough to bear their weight" - and as there is now no more passing to and fro with canoes, I suppose that method will be resorted to at once for tomorrow it will be frozen hard enough to bear twice that weight. — A native from the village on the east side of Cape East walked over the mountain to day and reported seeing a ship pass close by on her way South, the day we were wrecked, which must have been the "Massachusetts" which decides all doubts about her safety. The natives here have all given us to understand she capsized off the high land just beyond the town and sunk. Whenever we have attempted to question them, and I am inclined to think they are mighty fond of the marvels, from what little chance I had to observe. This native can speak a few words of English the first we've seen yet and I should think from his appearance he could be relied upon —

2 ships passed yesterday in sight of this town but although the wind was light, it was too cold for them to go to them in their canoes. Many of the natives are reeling about the beach drunk - the result of the sale of whalebone found from the wreck. To Accomme, his Brother, and a Nephew also who are all three trading for Redfield, having a stock of goods on hand that he left here just before we were wrecked to be exchanged for trade during the winter - as they have saved considerable within the last few days and are all inveterate drunkards their present actions are obvious —

yesterday and today excepted, we visited the ship daily & to the most casual observer @ a distance, the site of a wreck would be palpably - for some 2 miles the beach is covered with casks in endless confusion, and the wilful havoc the natives have made with the oil makes one's heart ache to behold - To ascertain the contents they have cut holes in the heads or sides as came most convenient - leaving the oil slowly trickling among the stones, in every direction - from the size and number of casks I should judge quite 700 bbls have come on shore intact, while the staves, hoops and heads of the rest, are most plentifully interspersed with planks, boards and timbers - from 70 to 80 barrels of oil have not been disturbed, as the casks lie just as thrown up on the beach but probably they have been spared for their own use -

Several empty casks are stacked full of the blubber of the whale we had on board with other articles laid near as saved by different natives, whom no one molests, the owner's special claim is apparently regarded as sacred among them -

These blubber they seem very fond of as I constantly meet parties regaling themselves on it - a piece is cut from the Mass with quite the same thickness of blubber as the Hackskin in which they cut into such strips, first and then slicing them up in strips, like cheese and devour it with the greatest relish -

Some being offered me once, I thought, I would try it, as doubtless I should have to come to it before the winter was over; although it was sweet and not unpleasant to the taste, I found it much too tough to masticate, so I returned to my task of saving cask heads for fuel quite satisfied with my attempt -

Feeling inclined to rest, I concluded not to go down today being quite indisposed, from the effects of the furious beating, I received lately having removed the skin from vigour,

application of my nails. Before I left the house this morning, I concluded I would take a rum-bath. I had saved a metallic wash dish from the surf and pouring into that, from the barrel I had saved quite a quart of the fiery fluid and used it in the presence of the household for privacy so not to be thought of among themselves, and I certainly could find none - having finished my use of it and dressed I was about to throw it outside the door when a native who was present asked me for it. Never thinking he would drink it I handed him the basin when he drained it to the last drop, without a winking of his eye. After that, thinking I was delayed I had the satisfaction some little time after, however of seeing him making a plaster cast of himself in the snow. He must have drunk quite a pint of rum that was 30 ¢ besides the leis -

It seems to me that this house is a general rendezvous for everybody in the village. A sort of "Traveler's Rest" as every night more or less strangers are present and tonight two are as drunk as fiddlers, and I've only just trampled a fellow over into the snow because he would insist upon my drinking some of his Superior Keweenaw Alcohol after my repeatedly declining. Perhaps some of them will learn to leave me alone before they winter ends -

The inside of this wigwag resembles a ship's forecabin for noise and confusion. I should think from the bustle that they are all drunk - why was I born to endure the nausea & tortures I am now subject to? - I shall not give up the possibility of seeing some outward bound ship until the 20th as a bright lookout is kept all day - but I've this faintest hope imaginable.

I could manage well enough if it was not for these midnight-ozies, the filth and the legions of vermin!!!

Monday 17th October 1870 -

A fresh NE wind, with haze all around the horizon, and the air filled with snow that tingles our ears and fingers, unless they are properly protected. Passed another most uncomfortable night from the ~~swarming~~ of vermin that besieged me who literally swarm here. The house is possessed of a veritable plague which, if the exertions of their medicine men would relieve me from I would willingly give all I possess here small as it may be -

At daylight Accoomme came in and after rousing up all hands partook of a breakfast with them of Whale blubber and then with Omalieie, went to the beach with their dogsleds, for there is no more canoeing as I view it, this winter; the entire face of the lagoon is frozen solid to the depth of several inches which has also quite a covering of snow of dazzling whiteness, and many acres in extent. - I was not allowed to go with them or any of my men (In fact, as the natives say it is too cold or in their phraseology, it is "big Coe Coe" - It does indeed seem more like winter today than ever. The air is very raw indeed and I noticed, have all doffed mittens, and hoods of deer skin, in consequence -

I've kept myself pretty well in doing all day - or rather, in the hut for dovis are a luxury here that are dispensed with here - a hole is the substitute, instead - which, by the way, are all on the west side of the house, - a direction from which the wind blows with the least violence -

Cleaning out my wash hand basin, I opened my bag of flour and for the first time, in my life, attempted to make bread without yeast or salt. It did not rise very well and was somewhat of a cooling consistency when kneaded. but by bending together a portion of an old Kerosene tin, I made a sort of a gutter over upon which I heaped a quantity of the stoves brought up from the ship and making a roaring fire in the middle of the outer part of the house and smoke enough for a foundry. I managed to find an apology for my

attempt, that, with, fill some of the emptiness, I wots of although, It does seem somewhat elastic and tenuous. In its affecting and clinging propensity for its late covering - I managed to ~~wring~~ a good share of it down, and distributed, the rest among the capacious maws, of the gluttonous, assembled, to the amount of a house full that, even the smoke failed, to disperse, and who had watched, every motion, of my fingers, from the onset, to the end, with a keenness only equalled by their canine companions, that, require considerable of my attention, to divert, theirs, from making a raid on my little store. That duty over I washed as clean as possible, in the snow banks outside, and then retreated, to the wigwam, to write.

There are six less than, 7 natives, clustered, around me as close as I will allow them, to watch, and comment upon the movements, of my pencil which, one is trying to emulate, with a piece of plumbago upon a dressed seal skin, that, is almost as soft and white, as Chamisso's leather, but, from the laughter, of his companions, I should judge, was not very successful @ imitating.

Accomme and Emalilie, have just returned, with sleds loaded as heavily as the dogs could draw, with staves, cask heads, blocks, and everything they could pile up. The most of which is brought inside of the already lumbered up house and deposited upon the benches and cases at the sides.

As I had saved the burnt portions of my loaf for them. It was divided, between, and dispatched in a hurry with sundry ejaculations, at "Cap Masinka"! "ow ow Masinka"! "Capt - and etc, As now pointing to one of my audience, says "Matalie", name. and gave me know he was to be my servant, that, he was to learn English and I was to learn Esquimaux a proposition, that, gently agreed with my ideas and as he was a smart good looking young fellow of 19 or 20 I concluded to make the most of him, as he was to live with me henceforth.

Satisfied, that, I understood him, he commenced,

to point out to me an old woman that had just come in, as his wife, a wrinkled, bed-ridden old hag that had just come from the west on a visit. This, is the third I've seen, and the poor unfortunate has but 2 more somewhere along the coast. This is the first instance I have noticed of Polygamy among them, as yet. A veritable Frigheim, Young in fact, as he is. In extending his social relations he is not the less sparing of his hospitality and kindness towards me as far as his simple means go which would put to shame many a Christian's liberality. Always anxious after my welfare we never meet but what he particularly in his enquiries of my comfort has several women at work making me skin clothing and has given me more boots and mittens than I can keep the run off. As Emaliki promises upon whatever seems to suit him and stalks off with it without more ado. He seems very anxious about my suffering from cold especially and invites me to the retreat of his wigwam often. If I am uncomfortable in his house but in that we differ, as I choose to bear the ill I know of rather than fly to those that render life inside intolerable, preferring the intensity of the cold to the swarms of the ravenous insects inside.

As has just withdrawn, after first shaking hands to the bosom of his youngest wife and family and all the inmates of this house are stretched out in a parallel row in front of me. Emaliki and his wife side by side next "Opemga" then the old woman of the period, next "Matalie" and finally Emalika, and her two children. The men have taken off everything and have their loins covered with the coat they wear through the day. The women have but the narrow girdles of sealskin some 8 inches in width which they call a "markie", but I think, it is more like a bunt gasket, resembling a pair of tight fitting pants with the legs cut only an inch long and the waist reduced behind to 8 and in front

to about 4 inches. In width, only - this, is the sleeping costume, and as they lay side by side, they seem to be packed so close they must lie only on their side, as there is not sufficient width of the apartment, to do otherwise, lying thus, giving utterance to all sorts of unwholesome sounds that they all seem perfectly familiar with - presently Emalilik gives a peculiar sort of call and presto change what a rapid change of base has occurred - everyone has turned over on the opposite side to the one they had been lying on and are sleeping away as quietly as before. Sudden indications of having their rest disturbed, is manifest in the detonations, resounding throughout the apartment their movements, reminding me of those of a fleet of "Mackerel catches" who at the stroke of the bell at midnight stand on the other tate, commencing to celebrate the 4th of July. No wonder the place swarms with the Plague of Egypt. I anticipate a pleasant rest! -

Thursday 18th October -

All this day a moderate N.E. wind with the clearest sky to the N.W. We get fever, arose early and going to the highest point, I could find of elevation, long and anxiously I gazed seaward in search of a sail but as usual nothing intercepted the gaze beyond the spouting of a few whales in the distance, that were the California grey species, or Ripsacks, as they are technically termed, by the whalers. They abound along the shores of both continents during the entire season. Highly prized as an article of food by the natives who prefer them to any other species and annually secure numbers of them -

The current is still setting along the shore to the E at the rate of quite 3 knots per hour and has been continually since our advent. No field ice is yet in sight. But if this continues it will not be long before it will make its appearance -

Returning to the house just in time to see Accoomme and Emalilik start for the week

with dog sleds, expressing a wish to accompany them, they indicated. It was "big Joe Joe" and started off at a pace that argued well for the power and spirits of their team, each consisting of 12 large dogs, who with their bushy tails looked more like wolves than anything of the canine species, which in fact they are domesticated. - Before leaving, however, he brought some of the "Japans" planking from among a pile of materials back of the house, - and intimated he wanted me to make a sort of heavy sled of it to bring oil, casks up on the lagoon to the village. Furnishing me with a new handsaw, drawing knife, hatchet, and chisel from "Redfield", and pointing to an old chest where a number of old tools were kept, gave me to understand, I could use such as I required.

As soon as he left I went to work, for really I felt if I had something to do it would occupy my mind, and help the time, spend on; but before I could work up the materials I was obliged to melt off the snow and ice they were covered with, in the fire. - by perhaps 2 P.M. I had finished, a cumbersome sort of thing that was strong enough to bear any cask they could put upon it and at every part, was lashed together with raw hide rope yarns. It took fair to last for some time, I satisfied with the result - I began to think about something to eat, and while revolving whistling it would be a fry or a roast. Mr. Price came in with two smoking hot dumplings he had just made. - so I fell to work at once without further reflection.

They looked quite as tough, as they were and dark enough to have been boiled in molasses, but I managed to make them disappear in an incredible short space of time, for a hungry man like myself just then, could have no very fastidious notions. - and be healthy.

The children I fancied looked disappointed as well as the others, at my voracious appetite.

so to conciliate all hands; I thought I would turn
 Cook in earnest. A number of ducks (Eiders) hanging
 above the hole in this side of the house attracted
 my attention and knowing they must have been
 brought there this morning I asked Emalunga
 for one who readily plucked it for me. While I
 melted snow over the fire in a small brass
 Kettle hanging inside, then made tea from
 the wood ashes, and scrubbed it clean for
 the first time since it had been used, God
 knows when! — Mixed up some sort of a compound
 that I called dough. Cut up my duck and some
 of my salt meat and putting dough and all
 in the Kettle filled it with snow hung it over
 the fire, and made smoke enough to stop all
 hands. Emalunga took her children and sailed
 for Accomies house. Pretty soon "Opounga"
 followed and it was not long before "Aychin"
 came rushing out past me as I stood at the
 hole gasping for breath with eyes steaming
 and mentally I say all such Cook shops to
 perdition. saying "Munkuckee, Atkin" and a
 number of other interesting adjectives that doubtless
 she knew of but I didn't and squatting
 upon the snow commenced coughing violently
 and spasmodically occasionally regarding me
 with a sort of ~~at the~~ ^{the} birds expressions. but I had
 made up my mind for a stew or a hash I
 couldn't tell which it would be just then, and
 was bound to see it through, now I had
 commenced. A crowd of children of all ages from
 2 years up to 67⁺ had collected around as they
 observed the smoke curling out of every crevice
 in the crazy old shanty and sweeping before
 the wind across the lagoon ^{leaving} a train like
 that of a locomotive. For too well they knew
 no one but a white man would be so prodigal
 of fuel and the chance of "being in at the death"
 was too tempting to resist. I had been annoyed
 by their constant annoyance while preparing this

delectable; dish, by ~~their~~ ^{their} sitting propensity to feel of everything they saw on the part of some, while others wanted to taste, and one old fellow who, was the greatest nuisance present, expressing his desire as he opened his mouth, water, with desire, received a handful ^{of flour}, that actually changed his color several shades to the great delight of the rest -

I had now the satisfaction, at last of having the house all alone to myself, and my cherished smoke, which although it had the desired effect of preventing Intemperance, yet made no little impression upon my facial muscles, that was not over satisfactory to reflect upon. but as it started the dogs, root and branch, it greatly mitigated my suffering, as I darted in to lay a fresh faggot on the fire and returned with a zeal that was quite commendable to my exertions, I judged by the merriment of my audience who loitered around Sanquine there must be an end to it before spring came.

I kept it up however until, I felt quite sure it was cooked and extinguishing the fire calmly waited for the air to fill the vacuum after which I proceeded to dish up -

Now during my preparations I had seen a nice new wooden dish upon the top of the skin covering ^{of the freezer}, that I considered would do for me, and determined to have it, so before all the smoke had disappeared I took a large snowball inside found the dish and washed out all the smoke I could. and by this time Enalizing and the rest returned I had my kettle emptied into it - which no sooner did she see than she commenced to rave - I could not understand! "Opounga" came next she raved I could not understand! Then "Agcher" she ditto I was insensible to the war of words that were storming me - first one commenced to cough then the other joined the last from the effects of the

Smoke until they all commenced in concert. the dogs
 set up their ~~howls~~ howls in concert and for a few
 moments, Pandemonium reigned supreme. It went
 from the absurd to the ridiculous. I could not stand
 it. I had to sit down and indulge my inclination
 to laugh at their ridiculous actions, that at once
 converted them, to my mode of thinking as they joined
 and laughed at one another, then at me, then
 at themselves, again, until finally by the grasping
 a stick of wood sent the dogs off crying "pen
 and Lark;" Looking outside, I saw the upshot of the
 whole in a glance, two of them were running
 sideways, awkwardly enough and Agchem's exertions
 to facilitate movements, were too late to be
 effectual! The screen in front of the wigwam
 was raised to let the smoke escape therefrom
 and giving them a portion of my extempore meal
 the rest was set aside for my supper out of reach of
 the dogs.

Just at dark, Aconum & E
 returned, with loads of material from the ship
 which was discharged in front of the house and
 the dogs detached from the sleds and fed upon
 walrus meat, putrid, beyond all description, froze
 stiff as it was taken from an underground
 house near; It was chopped in pieces on the
 snow with an axe, and then scattered broadcast
 for them to feed upon. Several natives, with
 their whips in hand preventing outside
 dogs from making a raid upon their neighbors.

Going inside, I paid some little
 attention to my feast, that although smoky, heavy
 and strong - was not to be despised and I made
 my first good meal with satisfaction. After
 which A and E fell upon it eating four mouthfuls
 to R's one. Like the glutton, he is. I certainly
 never saw his equal before. always eating and
 always hungry -

Mr. Irving came in this evening and
 gave me a small piece of soap. They mean he is
 living with you him - he says he is more comfortably

lodged them, I am and have more or less of the ship's provisions, three times a day" well he might - I should say if all I hear is true, clattering a short time, he returned, and I flatter myself there will be another smoke tomorrow as I intend to heat water enough for a wash - a luxury I've been a stranger to since my arrival - I am so amused by this ~~scenery~~^{ecceit} that I cannot spare either hand to write more just now!!! -

Wednesday October 19th -

A southerly wind, this morning for the first time, which makes a sensible change in the atmosphere, the sun is out bright and clear and the day bids fair to be a pleasant one -

Tried some whale blubber and "scapies" for breakfast which was eaten raw of course and tasted raw also, however she got to come to it sooner or later, and I fancy I had best commence at once, hence the effort.

Afterwards, made another dog sled for Eemalilie, who with A. is off to the ship, again. And then had my bath, such as it was in the presence of all the household who having no regard for my natural modesty actually wished to assist - a kindness I respectfully declined with many thanks -

The smoke was not so dense today, as the wood burnt much better although considerable coughing occurred and I had only to point out the wooden stick to excite the most uproarious laughter - what it meant I cannot conceive perhaps I may some time -

After I had completed my ablutions, I was not a little amused at a process the three women of the house underwent that I had not before observed - an operation, probably induced by beholding my own - A mysterious, wooden article that seemed to occupy considerable attention from them at certain periods of the day and night, had several times disturbed my senses by its pungency previous to this afternoon, when I observed "Opounga" vanish with it in a dark corner of the room and then returning set it in front of the lamp before her -

and stripping to her "bustgaskets" takes a small piece of
 Manila, oakum, and calmly commences to wash
 her person with the contents, which I must say
 had a decidedly effect. In changing her complexion
 from a drizz brown to a yellow red - the most
 prominent features of the face were decidedly
 improved, but those that were in the background
 of ~~the~~ face were somewhat shrouded from my casual
 glance - Her hands, too seemed of a sudden to
 have discarded gloves - small and well
 shaped as they were with long taper fingers
 and oval nails, many a fashionable belle
 would have given half her fortune to have
 possessed them - Her tangled, disheveled long
 black ^{coarse} hair was next visited by both comb
 and fingers, with a courage and pertinacity
 that evinced a stout heart, and great power
 of endurance, until it ~~presented~~ presented
 a much more creditable appearance with its
 two braids, deftly coiled around the top of
 her head and securely fastened at the back,
 with a bit of red worsted, comforting saved
 from the wreck. Two earrings of lead scraped
 bright and each ornamented with 2 tails of
 of variegated colored glass beads were
 suspended from the lobes of her ears,
 while, suspending from her right shoulder
 were some 200 of beads, outside her
 skin coat like "bloungous" with the usual
 quantity of bracelets of the baser metals on
 her wrists - Thus elaborated she seemed to be
 perfectly satisfied with the result of her
 exertions, and returning gave place to "Agelin"
 who following suit, resignedly in favor of
 Omaticaya - who was ~~was~~ more precipitate
 and careless in her toilet, but there was no
 denying it improved their appearance very
 much - The two children, who certainly looked
 as though they never had been made acquainted
 with that process since they first saw the

light, bring present - Induced, me to make the suggestion they should undergo either that operation which the said was Eggleston or a scraping; I hardly could tell which would be the most desirable, but I inferred from the Indifferent shrug of her shoulders and other indications of similar purport. It was not deemed conducive to their health - and on consideration I thought perhaps they might take cold - so quietly acquiesced.

The little girl ("Intina") I have become quite attached to as she is quite a pretty bright eyed child, good natured, and well behaved. Happy and joyous as a Lark singing to her little self the most of the day - but the boy a peculiarly dirty ill natured little cub I have no sympathy for as he is the pet of the household and gratified in every whim to the total neglect of the girl which in consequence inclines me more in her favor -

Emaluk has just returned with the sled I made yesterday loaded down with rafting split out of the ship's spars and with 17 dogs attached to it for a team. Some of them are splendid looking animals of the kind and his leading one "Emut" is a brack! & gives me to understand their stock of wood was scarce indeed until we came - the most of which was gathered from the "Wm Tell" of Sag Harbor, that came on shore here in a fog close to the town several years ago. A Medicine Chest with her name upon it is now in one of the houses here - The "Japan" has proved a blessing to them in many respects and it will be many years before they will cease to mention her name which they know already -

Inside the wigwag, there are at present ~~there are~~ no less than 4 natives, living around in the most indolent of attitudes, as contentedly and as much at home as though they belonged here

to my intense disgust for the place is none today at the beach. and I am trying to persuade "Matalie" to send them outside, with but little effect, apparently — so I vanish, instead and stroll down to the beach, some 50 yards distant.

The wind, has gradually worked around to the N.E. and blows fresh again, with snow squalls, the sun, shining occasionally in the intervals, between. The thermometer is not much above 15° now for us so cold that the surf is freezing all along the shore, and I fancy a calm would freeze the entire sea over. He hurried back to the house again for it's not over agreeable to face such a ~~the~~ searching wind, as this.

The temperature here inside this enclosure is probably not far from 30° warmed as it is by 4 stone lamps, and only some 20 feet in length by 12 wide, with a height of 6 only, perfectly air tight, except when the front of the screen is raised by someone going out or in which is the only ventilation we have — It's too stiff for me so I've followed the natives example and stripped to my under shirts, and hung the rest of my garments outside to freeze out the foreigners during the night —

Just fancy the idea of being in such a garb, in such a place, &c. backfired fastidious ones, with all the rest of the inmates male or nearly so, male and female, commenting upon your white skin, and all that sort of thing with an occasional desire to feel ~~it~~ it to see if it's like theirs, and then say if you would not too be a Roman? I suppose I shall have what the Frenchmen call Habitude, sometime during my stay, but really at present my native backfulness and modesty incline me to prefer more private apartments, —

Accoume is on a big drunk, tonight for the first time, since I've been here his wife who is not much better off just came here.

Looking like a she d—l with her eyes badly swollen from a beating he has given her which I suppose is all right as she is begging Emalilik for room. "Matalik" is sent outside, a bung is knocked out of a barrel and quite a quart of reduced alcohol turned into a copper kettle and she departs, happy and content chanting a bacchanalian song.

Oh me 4 years ago this very night—my eldest child was born! ~~How~~ often my name has been mentioned to her by her mother who is now so anxiously waiting and watching a return, that is not so soon to be realized, if ever—

How little they expect to hear of this disaster that has befallen me that so soon is to crush all their fond hopes to earth—God be merciful to them all when they learn the truth and sustain them amid the doubts and uncertainty of the future. — I would give all I ever possessed to be with them this night!

Thursday 20th October—

I did not go out this morning very early so I had my wash inside the wigwam. In the ice water taken from the wooden well in the corner. The wind gradually subsided during the night and now it is very still, calm and cold. Matalik says "Big foa foa comes" which I interpret as the winter has commenced! Passed a most restless night and as I have only a small reindeer skin to cover me I become quite cold after the lamps go out as they invariably do about midnight— One is obliged to strip for comfort and my night shirt is very thin indeed, hence the result.

Eleven days I've been here & already, I am feeling resigned in a measure with my most miserable lot as I well know there is no alternative but resignation and I'm giving up the faintest hope of rescue—

Had my usual breakfast with the natives of

whale blubber with the black skin on and some
Ripsack meat, the natives had taken, previous
to my shipments, which were both quite palatable,
and sweet-frozen as hard as ice, any unpleasant
flavor is destroyed by it and one can probably
eat it with better relish, than otherwise, at
all events, I did, and am quite satisfied
with my attempt, but probably would have
done better justice to a Christians' feed.

Knowing Accoomis, spyglass another relic of Bedford
which is superior to ordinary ones of that description, I
climbed up the face of the cliff, covered with snow and
ice as it was, until I came to the level surface some 60 feet
above and then, wandering to its sea face over and through
the loose white mantle, so carefully spread over its entire
surface pausing at its abrupt precipitous brink, I
adjusted the focus and swept the horizon from shore
to shore - peering above the line of demarcation ^{as far as} ^{more} ^{my}
gave encountered a piece of sea ice, that the distance
at first gave the appearance of a sail which for a
moment caused considerable anxiety as to its identity.

But sweeping further on I saw several others of like
size, that convinced me it was the field ice coming
down with the current from the westward that
I have been expecting daily.

Hundreds of the "California Grays" were to be
seen in every direction, from a half mile off shore
to as far as the eye could trace, in the distance
all slowly advancing towards the straits, as the
approaching barrier forced them on - occasionally
a hair seal would protrude his nose above the
surface of the water for a moment, and then
disappear with a splash that would send the
concentric circles that marked the spot -
far into space widening with increasing
rapidity as they gradually subsided in to the placid
surface of the element that formed them.

Myriads of sea fowl of all descriptions were
constantly coming in long lines of flight from
the western coast and disappearing around the

high land to the Eastward, as they winged, they way out through the Straits to the South, before they saw rapidly advancing winter, indicated by the flight of all animal nature, except the sturdy Esquimaux who seemed rather elated with the idea of perpetual frost and snow.

I thought of "When the swallow homeward fly" and could but wish for wings; but as those were denied me, and an approaching numbness of fingers, and feet, gave sundry indications, that as I could not fly, perhaps it would be as well if I walked back to the town, that lay beneath me some distance, ^{as speedily as possible}. That it would be better for my wholeness, to do so at once I needed no further conviction, than the exertions, I made in its behalf until I had somewhat restored the circulation.

A ravine just to the left of my ascent with a number of Native girls and women trending back to and for the town for water, ^{which} seemed to be a better descent than I had before noticed, induced me to try it: about midway I found a crowd assembled around a small hole cut through the ice that had frozen over the surface of the running stream, beneath through which the stream ~~it~~ bubbled forth and was bailed up into their wooden tubs, old ships, buckets, empty Kegs, &c. &c. &c. and anything, and everything in fact they could raise, for containers, that were slung with walrus hides, ropes and carried on a staff between two - quenching my thirst with the first pure drink, I ever got had. I mentally resolved to visit here for the purpose hereafter.

Grouped around me were some 10 or 12 girls of all ages who would hold out their hand with a most beseeching look and ~~and~~ in a most supplicating manner ejaculate "Arme, jaloupa, arme jaloupa fap!" giving them, to understand, I did not use the articles they had asked for, which was tobacco they seemed to doubt me very much until I opened my mouth to convince them, as they all use it themselves, men, women, children, age and infants; they thought it the strangest thing I did not also failing in this respect, I was next entreated for

"Treteta," or needles with the like result, and then some of them who were elaborating with beads over their shoulders, intimated, a moderate supply of a pound or two would prove equally acceptable. I had no doubts on the subject myself - but as I had not my usual stock on hand - which, the natural timidity of my disposition, forbade, my carrying for fear of such solicitations - and as my place of business was so far remote, that I should not be able to hand over to them to day at least, the quantity of such trifles, the chivalry of my too susceptible nature, induced me to justify them. I would deem it a high compliment to myself if at the first favorable opportunity they would allow me to forward by post a quantity likely to equal the demand if it was possible, which I trusted, they would accept as a slight tribute of the high estimation I had of the fairness of Oualin."

Having delivered myself of the following which was frequently interrupted by signs and expressions of approval in a manner of fact such of way highly demonstrative and amusing. I restored my exhausted energies with another draught from the hands of the fairness of the party and raising my cap turned to continue my descent when my legs flew out at a tangent, and I made a closer acquaintance with the slippery surface that I sat upon than seemed desirable just then amid the uproarious plaudits of my late audience.

I had heretofore withstood all the seductive cloying and bright gleams that had charged upon me like a company of dragons - but when it came to ridicule on bare facts and features, I felt I was the agreed party. Shouts of "Hook Captain Munkin" "Bark Munkin" and the like greeted me on either side, and I speedily came to the conclusion I had better get up a fraction by sliding down the slippery ice side, so giving a start, came down like a rocket some 50 ft or more, until I found the snow where the deep

Impassiveness of my footsteps enabled me to maintain my perpendicular with more ease.

I had been meaning ever since the second day of my arrival, an immense pair of seal skin water proof boots made for a Capt. Chapman a trader by Emalinga, but as he had gone away without calling for them they were turned over to me.

If they were cut from measure he must usually wear about ^{an} 18 No. but as they are every morning filled with a few handfuls of dry grass before I put them on they do not turn around on my feet more than 5 or 6 times a step, which renders the act of walking as graceful as that of the Eider duck - but as they are warm and quite tight they are apart from their clumsiness very comfortably indeed. The bottoms made of oiled skin thick as leather when upon glass ice of course prefer to look upwards and as this was my first intimation of their inclination this was not singular I should like to add to my unfulfilling companions perfectly satisfied with my first geometrical attempt in describing tangents.

Arriving at the house I found a native from St Lawrence Bay who could talk a little English and who called himself "Jeff Davis" I had often seen the fellow before in my visits to his place and he knew me at once, exclaiming "Hook! Capt. Hook! Japum, making! Hook Hook!"

He then proceeded to relate to me that 3 days ago the "Helen Snow" of New Bedford had left St Lawrence Bay for Honolulu having visited there for the purpose of repairing damages sustained by the late gale in the Arctic. By the recent gale that she had lost all her boats and that the natives had taken casks on shore filled them with water and carried them to her again with her canoe; that Capt Campbell was "good man Masinkas Capt. plenty trace give Injun man" - How much truth there is in this report I cannot say for these natives are very fond of exaggeration, this one in particular.

but that there is some foundation for it there is no doubt. ^{That} she has been there not long past is certain, but now it is too late to learn it with any advantage to any of us.

It seems hardly to him such reports now for had I known it in time, I would certainly have made the attempt, to reach her by a dog sled. If I could have induced anyone to have let me had one.

But there is not a native in the town of Owalim that can understand English. I should probably have had as much difficulty as I did, in trying for the canoe, but had I succeeded I should have shivered freezing by the way, cold as it is.

There is no doubt it was the same vessel we saw last year going out through the straits, the difference of time, agreeing pretty well from the day we saw her and the present information.

This evening there was among other things, some for supper some of the famous frozen Greenland, paruch, or the contents of it rather. That Hall and others speak of as being so delicious. From its appearance and odor, I fancy there must have been a famine in Egypt as well as where they travelled, as it looks precisely like what everyone would suppose it would. A veritable mass of animal decomposition, gastric juices, and lichen, mose, rank and fatidic as — Well! anything that's nasty!

It would require a hungry man indeed to eat that revolting mass I verily believe! I've not seen the time yet that my taste has been sufficiently vitiated to attack it — but that the natives are fond of it there is no denial and if anyone could have seen their hands and faces after they had consumed some 8 or 10 lbs weight I fancy they would have no further cause for doubt.

To night "Acrommie", "Emulidie", "Matutier", and myself have been trying to converse with each other about what we will do for each other in the spring when the ships come. but so many dark and gloomy days have to intervene, first that God only knows if I shall ever live to see it. when I talk to them,

about not surviving the winter. They all laugh at me and say 'Gou no mukin, ho, ho!' Accoume mukukin dea. gou cou cou" I hope he has, but I should feel better, pleased if I saw portions of them, afterwards!—

Shaking hands as usual he repeated, after one good night and sought his favorite wife, while we preparing to go to sleep were apprised of the advent of two Natives, from a town called "Amirig" somewhere along the coast towards Cape Serge. who had come to pass the night with us. Their dog sleds were laden with Ivory (Walrus) and whalebone they had brought to trade for Rum and tobacco. Having been 2 days and nights on the route.

They are both stalwart, robust men and seem much cleaner than the Natives about this place. Their skin clothing and in fact all their apparel is new and well made.

Supper was provided for them by "Ageline" and "Opounga" who did not forget to introduce some of the saving articles aforementioned, that probably was highly appreciated, as they wiped their fingers on their mouths with apparent relief after all had disappeared from sight—

They then proceeded to strip to the buff, fast carefully hanging their damp boots and stockings over the lamps to dry during the night. and as there was not room for them to join in the usual row they were placed one on each side of me as a sort of body guard just fancy the idea of 10 of us piled into that narrow space and then talk of narrow berthing on shipboard! those that cannot appreciate them. I would willingly resign my place for the smallest and darkest one I ever saw if I but could—

My writing this seemed to interest them much long after the others had gone to sleep which probably is the first instance of the kind they ever saw in their lives. As I go to sleep the wind is strong from S.E.

Friday 21st October, 1840

12 days among these savages, uncouth, rude and dirty as they are has quite domesticated me for the life I have to lead - as I've not been outside of the house this forenoon day, so strong a North East gale is raging and so much snow is falling - whether my late assailants were aware of the fact that there was "strangers" in the camp or not last night I am unable to fully decide. Or whether overcome with the exertions of previous ones, nature succumbed at last and I slept better than usual, & also an enigma; but one, ^{thing} I can say I passed a more comfortable night than I ~~ever~~ have heretofore and feel consequently refreshed this morning in consequence of it. It is attributable to my first suggestion I sincerely trust my bedfellows may remain all winter. If the latter I should prefer as far as my own inclinations are concerned, they move at once. But as the selfishness of human nature -

Our first course at breakfast this morning served as before described, was frozen walrus meat - whale blubber and "scapin". 2^d boiled walrus liver and train or seal oil, and 3^d the everlasting dung of the Reindeer -

As our number was increased by two, Matatis and myself had the honor of putting our pairs inside of Omalingas Mahozong, which was of smaller size than the one we've usually been accustomed to use, but quite sufficient for us & her two children and "Opounga".

At the second course which is the first I've seen of the kind. the oil was poured out of a seal bladder hanging inside from the rafters into a small hole in the center of the tray counterpane, not quite half way through the bottom, which, filled as it was, answered as a sauce dish, into which by every individual, fingers, a piece of the liver was dipped, and swallowed with great apparent relish - I tasted it and thought it was not altogether unpalatable, still it seemed too heavy on the grease for my liking -

The 3^d I declined altogether, out of respect principally to the appetites of my companions who I thought better deserving than myself as they were they more accustomed to the luxuries of "Owaleen" -

About midday the violence of the storm abated considerably, so I slept, borrowed a pair of new sissors, Redfield had presented to Emalinia and starting for the house where one of my boatmen, (Peter) was living who was a sort of ship's barber, I found him in pretty much the same quarters as my own and the eyes of the old darkey glowed with delight when he saw me enter as he was one of the slightly disabled ones at our wreck and his feet were still foot-bitten and swollen although improving through the constant application of seal oil -

I had him cut my hair as close as possible, as sundry indications convinced me it was most proper which was afterwards availed as a preventative against cold with a little of the contents of the widows cruet - this promise of a glass of grog to the poor fellow as soon as he would come for it, induced him to make the attempt to visit me tomorrow, such is the effect of persuasion that I knew would do him more good than harm by the little exercise required to obtain it -

Returning I met the Lewis and the Price who had been at my house to invite me out to dine with them upon some dumplings and a tin of mutton they had prepared. I did not need pressing very much one may be sure, and readily returned to their place owned by a smart looking young fellow of 23 perhaps, named "Fiddle" who with his wife, Fering, two little boys, an old man and my two officers occupied it; just about the same size, just about as dirty and as decrepit looking a place as my own but the quantity of articles he had collected from the ship I think was greater than I had seen in any other house. Two or three new tin pans several tin pots and

knives and plated forks were spread upon one of the cabin doors, resting upon an empty pork barrel, and the smoking viands were displayed in two paperily clean small wooden dishes. This was a spread indeed, and if I did not do justice to that meal I never did to one before! no salt or pepper was required for a relish, and if it had not been for the flavor of oil from the kettle, we never could have imagined it to be aught but the production of this ship's cook - such an agreeable change as it was from the frozen meals I've lately indulged in.

Returning to the house with me I gave them a bottle of grog and they departed to keep up their Christmas day, as the Price styled it -

It is now nearly dark again and the wind has commenced to breeze up from the old gunter S.E., the air is much warmer in consequence, and when the snow is not falling it is blowing in clouds from the drifts, and completely covering the skin coats, and pants, melting with the warmth of the body, and rendering it disagreeably damp and uncomfortable.

The natives have all put on their snow jackets, made of either Walrus or Seal's intestines, that are water proof in consequence.

Another servant of "Accommodated" has been added to our household this evening, who A. says is "Pocatinpoia" - the fellow had in his possession a muffer at one time, that he found in the surf at the wreck and gave me willingly, and as I recognized him as the individual and mentioned it he seemed much pleased at my notice -

"Matulee" and himself have been adding heavy weights of stones and ship timbers to the outside of the crazy old covering of the hut to prevent the flapping itself to pieces in the breeze, that at times threatens to ruin it altogether. All night Mr. says he will have to watch without sleep on that account. We are now by constant practice managing to understand each other pretty well!

Saturday 22nd October 1870

A fresh S.E. wind, without snow, cloudy weather, air of a moderate temperature, and distant objects obscure - wind having subsided, considerably since midnight.

Another restless night! vermin abundant, and myself as restless as one naturally would be from such annoyance and torture. I look about this body as though suffering from an attack of small pox - the pustules are intensely irritating and I am not far from mad, I believe!

Going outside, I find the warmth of the southerly wind, has melted about all the snow off the low land, and the ice in the lagoon, as well in many places the water of which ruffled by the breeze is covered with myriads of the Eider ducks, who seem to hug the ice on the south shore for shelter, and a ^{number} of natives are popping away at them with guns on the opposite side of the lake and I feel pretty well assured Ikinpo is there among them to get me a fresh mose. May Heaven reward his efforts! - The walking is awfully damp and splashy in consequence of this, than, that will not admit of the usual facilities of travel, along the shore to the wreck, and of course preventing our two visitors, from taking their departure, as they wish, they will have to wait for one night first at the least!

Amused myself in making 2 wooden shelves to keep my stocks of provisions, and food upon and a large one for Emalinga also - they were all made of the boards of the Cabin bulkheads and decidedly improve the appearance of a house that never knew the use of such appendages before - they are all backed up to the sides of the house for nails are not to be found here and will answer the purpose very well. If Emalinga will act in accordance with my suggestions and put her food dishes upon it instead of leaving them about undressed to be trampled upon the loose deerhairs to fall into - and for the dogs to fall out about every 15 or 20 minutes when a general melee ensues and canine sagacity

rouse the sympathy of the maid, of the house, that is most indiscriminately bestowed, with a bit of a stick, upon the host that generally takes to their heels at the first indications of hostilities on her part—

It must be known that the dogs of each house are privileged, to occupy the outer part of it at all hours of the day and night which is the only redeemable feature of a dog's life among the Esquimaux, I've yet seen—

And that the hair from all the skins that the house is built, covered and nearly filled with is constantly dropping from them, as well as from their garments, that pervade all space and cover everything so to avoid a surplus quantity in their food I've built this shaft for their use; time will show whether it's labor is vain that I am strongly inclined to think so—

To eat, one has to cook when the appetite craves, and I flatter myself I am gradually becoming quite an adept in the art, as I find some further after I had finished carpentering, in an old fry pan I found— I am sure no one except myself and the natives would ever eat my viands or could in fact if they wanted to, as I sadly fear cooking is not my forte; a fact that is of the least consideration to anyone else but myself at present I fancy—

Pitipave, has just returned to the house with a fine lot of fat eider ducks he has shot in the lake, and some of the well disposed natives in the neighborhood have brought me 5 more which I confess to have a weakmess for and anticipate we long another attempt to smoke out the oldest inhabitants—

"Accommoder" has just come in with the oddest looking boy imaginable, of some 12 years who he says is to be my servant that his name is "Barkow" and that he is "masimka," I will prove him tomorrow—

Sunday 23rd October 1870 -

A moderate S.E. wind, with a light-fall of snow and an intensely gloomy looking morning -
 rising out early. I set "Barkou" or "Bark" as the natives call him, at work splitting up some wood while I had my "Egletou" as Enaliga calls it - and then went to work to make a compound, that might prove for dough here. Heating some water, I cleaned out the kettle again, and cut up a duck that "Opounga" had plucked in the meantime, and putting in my crust filled it as usual with clear snow - put it over the fire, and set Bark to cook it, while I went inside, to see what all the noise was about in the wigwam - I had noticed a sort of hand tambourine hanging up in one corner, often, and supposed it was a sort of musical instrument - but never had seen it used until now -

One of the guests from "Ainere" holding it in his left hand by the short handle. Attached to it was beating upon its face with a strip of whalebone an accompaniment to a rude sort of chant, the burden of which was droned along throughout with a mournful sound that soon became a sort of prolonged howl, while the refrain seemed to be but a repetition of 4 or 5 words only - as "Aizigah" "gounga" "A! Aizigah" "gounga" - throughout in a not unmusical intonation - which was continued for quite an hour, until I could listen no longer and beat a retreat outside, Bark paying strict attention to his work making but little smoke to the great satisfaction of Enaliga drawing my attention to it said "Mamika" which convinced me it was quite

As she was cutting up a piece of walrus meat so fastidiously that the odor made me quite

sick, for their breakfast, I speedily sought the outside of the house and going to "Kieles," invited my officers to share pot-luck with me but as they were similarly occupied they declined. The cold bracing air gave me an appetite, and I determined to do the thing right this time, so I went to "Accoom's" house where I had seen a tea-kettle, and borrowing it, washed it out clean and made it half full of chocolate. After my stew was done - then taking the dish that there had been such a fuss about before I carried all inside, sent for "Accoom" and after giving about one half to Emalizingay - sat down with A & Emalilie to share with me - but before I had taken 1/2 dozen mouthfuls, I saw E selecting all the duck which he carefully stripped to the bone with his teeth, and then threw them back into the dish, this was a little too much for me so I gave the 2 the dish between them, which they rapidly emptied while I started to Bismut and Phoolah. Mentally resolving to eat by myself in the future.

But as my stock of provisions will not stand too much of a siege, I shall have to retrench, the said I am now making upon them -

My trunk of linen that was thoroughly saturated with salt water is now frozen together so firmly that, in my attempt to furnish Peter (who came for his pay on demand) with one of my shirts for bandages to his frozen feet - I found great difficulty in detaching a piece sufficiently large for the purpose so firmly were they united by the frost. They will have to remain so until the spring, for there is no chance to dry them without their being soiled beyond restoration.

Returning to the wigwam about dark I was not a little amused at Emalilie's pride in exhibiting a box of trinkets and toys, Redfleur had given him to the two "Ainien" visitors who were

seemingly astonished at the collection —

First decorating his two dirty ears, with brass amulets, watches, and chains, by suspending them with their hooks he looked truly the savage he personated, while he displayed, to his wondering audience, a gutta percha ball whistle, and the latest invention of a chimney top. A string of Anne's sleighbells from their extensive introduction along this coast by traders, ceased to excite the slightest admiration, which at one time, were in great demand. A miniature pop gun and child's rattle, were next brought forth, and each article was examined with an attention and comment that plainly showed how such trifles could affect them — But nothing could exceed their surprise and admiration when I spun the top upon a piece of elastic cord attached to my cap in a dark part of the room. The top, was furnished brass and as it vibrated up and down with the elasticity of this support as it revolved flashing in the rays of the light. It also surprised Eucalipti as well. I made signs they were not to approach me and as they could not see they could then wonderment know no bounds, and although regarded with the closest scrutiny their distance would admit of it was entirely beyond their comprehension —

The exhibition gradually attracted the attention of all present who in their superstitious ignorance I must be endowed with the power of the supernatural. Dunning myself for a few minutes in this manner I restored the articles to the owner or attempted to rather, but the moment I attempted to put it in his hand, he jumped, as though he had been stung by a hornet. saying No. No! and making signs for me to keep it — delighted at his misplecity I handed it towards each one present with the like result, so easily are their fancies excited, & putting it into the pocket of my coat above, it was as sacred as one could well wish, and although

the youngest child, cried, heartily for it, it was refused him pointedly - which is the first instance of the kind. One yet seen, as every thing that comes within his observation is handed him, to appease the vociferous cries that are sure to follow, if refused. I chanced to have among my women a "backabuck" towel that I had taken out before the articles became a mass of ice, and had used it every morning after my ablutions, and hung it above the lamp afterwards, to dry -

One morning, perhaps a week ago, I chanced to enter the wigwam hurriedly for something, when I found the dirty little brat, had been sweeping up the filth of the floor and dusting the furniture generally with it. One might fancy my indignation when I saw the color of it, black and grey beyond redemption. I felt I could have choked him with it willingly - as I had no soap to wash it out again, and I very much doubt if a week's boiling would have restored it to the original color again - but seizing him by the arms I sat him down forcibly enough to prevent his ever growing very tall and tying the dirty thing around his neck and face as intricately as possible, told him I would make ^{him} a present of it - returning afterwards I saw the dirty thing suspended from the line, where I had been in the habit of keeping it. and if my virtuous indignation did exert my muscle to send it with well directed force in his direction I am far from saying that is all! Of course this brought on me indignation & anger with the rest of the inmates, but threatening to cut off his ear with my pocket knife and to spin the tops on his head through to his boots - saved me from further annoyance of the kind since -

Two applicants for fire water, came just now with whalebone they had saved from the wreck, to buy it. As they had but 4 pieces or slabs, they

received but 2 bottles of reduced Alcohol in return which is the standard price - Walrusbone and Walrus teeth seem to be the principal currency in this section.

Tobacco I fancy is the most desirable article they receive in exchanges and Rum next - The former is largely used by them, all even the children, who they nurse until 3 or 4 years of age and I often ~~see~~ ^{them} ~~themselves~~ remove their quids, place it behind their ear, and then embrace the maternal font until satisfied, afterwards replacing the delicate bowl with all the large foid of an habitué - A mother never thinks of allowing herself the indulgence when her babe is in her arms without sharing a smite with it - strange as this may seem to the uninitiated, it is nevertheless an undisputed fact!!!

They have a leaf tobacco that the "Greenmen" or natives from the interior receive in exchange for furs from the Russians, who in turn, again exchange with the coast natives for their trades that is highly prized among them all and before the advent of the Whalers and Traders was their only supply - this is a most remarkable pipe that is principally used for smoking by the Eldis, are immense pipes of wood with lead or iron bowls ^{called "Coringes"} but of such small capacity that one or two whiffs exhaust the contents. As the smoke is all swallowed it is quite sufficient to produce a sort of serum Intoxication for a few moments that is all that is required -

It does not seem to affect their nervous system much Intemperate smokers as they mostly are -

It seems unaccountable to the most of them that I neither smoke or chew, a habit all are addicted to in one shape or the other, often both - and sometimes I fancy from indications they think I practice in secret what I now publicly condemn that I may not be obliged to give away any when asked for it - but where they imagine my supply comes from is an enigma to me -

Monday 24th October 1890

This morning a fresh East wind, and quite clear weather. Calm the greater part of the night. The intense cold has again covered the surface of the lagoon with a coating of ice, nearly firm enough to bear a man's weight. I noticed several dogs prowling about one who have sufficient sagacity to know and avoid the treacherous parts.

Passed quite a comfortable night as far as the cold is concerned, but the incessant attacks of the vermin almost drove me frantic at times. From the blotches and excoriations, visible about certain portions of my body I fancy I would pass for a first-class patient in a small pox hospital for this is the most consummate realization of imitations my life ever experienced.

About 9 A.M. the wind shifted around to the S.E. with a fast falling snow. Breakfasted off a box of sardines, froze as stiff as candles, tasted like them! Natives, reveling in Greenland punch as usual. Too much stomach for my own, prefer Artemus' Maud's "little fishes" fished in this cold as they were! —

All throughout the day a blinding snow storm, find most comfort in outer part of the house where natives are at work making dog sleighs from remnants of the Oskun. "Omaliuga" and "Opounga" at work upon my skin clothing that will probably be finished by next spring if they expedite matters beyond their customary exertions. In this meantime I wear anything of either Accouries or Omaliugas that I chance to lay hold of, thinking from the bundle of skins that now render the weather endurable to my person would enable me to pass for a bona-fide Esquimaux from a rear view —

Some of my men have called here today as they are accustomed to, owing probably to the violence of the storm now raging. How dismal it seems to be sure! They don't seem to be protected from admitting the whirling eddies of snow forcing their way through by one of our main-hatches on end.

walking each other in the snow as they twice dashed them about - which by 10 o'clock had all swept past and left the water clear again seaward as far as I can see not much over a mile. It had now commenced to rain the wind had hauled again to the S.E. and the air became much milder in consequence so I concluded some little exercise would be beneficial and strolled forth with one of the patent Maerintook's manufactured here - they all have a hood attached, like a cloak and of course render a sou'wester superfluous.

Found George Gordon, Lewis Kenway and Remond Mack the same with their disabled feet four fellows they are having the worst of it but I can do nothing for them. Kenway says the woman of the house yesterday collected along the beach some kelp and a quantity of hairfish that were boiled and given to him to eat that in his half furnished state he thought them delicious and ate heartily of them - that in the middle of the night he was convulsed with cramps and realising that not only alarmed him, but the inmates of the house who in their superstitious folly thinking he was suffering from some contagion wanted to turn him out in the snow - but fortunately for himself he grew better at once that induced them to let him remain, but on their returning to rest again they found he was lying with placed a large knife next his side significantly to be used against his expulsion if he had another attack which fortunately did not occur again" ^{this} is to be regarded as the fate in store for those that are unfortunate in being sick, God help them!

Going to the last house at the west end of the town where Mr. Irving lives with "Mearagan" Accuramus brother. I found that Lee my cooper had erected, quite a house for being out of the planking and timbers of the ship. Some 12 feet in height by 20 long and perhaps 15 wide. The top was flat covered with a dressed walrus hide with strips of planks underneath to support it. In

side, was inserted; one of the three windows that had been cut out for the purpose and the entrance was protected by one of the doors from my cabin, lock and all complete - One end inside was partly filled with whalebone sails, ropes, and other debris of the wreck - while at the other was a carpenter's bench with the vice, from the "Japan" and has groundstone tools and all in perfect condition - This is a most valuable acquisition to them, for sharpening their knives and axes - The establishment I should judge is intended for a sort of storehouse and "Incaragan" doubtless feels very proud of it as he took great pride in showing me everything connected with it then asked me into his house where after extending his hospitality as usual, showed me his wife in a calmer mood than when I last saw her - as she was from all appearances in pretty much the same condition he was then - He has living with him in the same house 2 boys who are both married, the eldest has a boy infant - and he also has 2 other boys about 4 and 6 years of age - There is no denying that he has the finest house in the place and more of the valuable portion of the "Japan" than all the rest - About his house are lying piled one upon another the Force Pump, Patent, flaring gun and wheel - Iron boat Davits, several new sails, coils of towline, the ships' medicine chest and numerous other articles that all looked familiar but sadly out of place - These Incaragan says are to be reserved for Capt. Redfield when he comes back next spring - I fancy I know the native disposition so well that they just begin will be served regardless of all outsiders -

Returning to the house I met an old fellow who I've often seen at Acamun's called "Toole toole" who gave me a small lot of fish he had picked up on the beach where the surf had thrown them - rather particularly injunctive, to return the net they were in taking them to the house - I found an old fying pan minus handle which I cleaned out and filled them in with some of my salt beef tallow that I had saved

and once made a meal from these, with a few few cakes made a very good meal indeed - Afterward I find a few of the latter for the inmates of the house that went a very little ways among ~~so~~ many months.

A bag of flour would not last them 3 days off I was to cook it as fast as they could eat - but as my stores are extremely limited, and I have to see it out some 7 months to come off I survive - I fancy I shall not gratify their inclinations in that respect very often - To night they winded before the North with a heavy surf on the beach with air cold and rain again - their indications are now one long -

Wednesday 26th October 1870 -

A strong North wind with heavy fall of snow and very cold - so much so that the natives say the "Munnekin for e for" (I take factly with the natives on "Sea Pig" which I prefer to their other food but the supply was scant indeed - but as we eat by the light of the lamp perhaps I should have thought different if I could have seen better -

About 10 AM I dropped and went over to Accomme's house where I found him renovating the frame of his wigwam with some of the timber from the wreck and gave him a helping hand for some time that seemed to please the old fellow very much. Afterwards "Oloingon" brought out some dried deer meat and fat which she cut in small slices for me to eat ~~and~~ with some of the sugar in mentioned, ^{as} having disappeared to bedder -

Of course I felt assured from what I saw that that one was as bad as another and it seems by this he got his share somehow! - This dainty morsel was more palatable than one would suppose and I did as much justice to it as the strange association of viands would allow -

A mere babe that was ailing several days ago when I was at one of the houses (and for which my professional services as a doctor were solicited) died this morning from congestion of the lungs and on my visiting the house for the purpose of witnessing the

funeral expressions, I was given ^{no opportunity} to understand my presence was not desired either there or elsewhere I could observe them. - Natalia was sent for me by "Accompany" to come back to his house and not to intrude upon their grief and superstition - as they were taking nearly everything outside the house and from indications shortly would bring the corpse also I had a great desire to watch them from a sufficient distance, not to interrupt the proceedings, but nothing would induce them to let me remain. I must retire out of sight - at once; so to my intense disgust of their superstitious folly I retraced my way back to the house. Afterwards, I saw from a distance, a long train of Natives, wending their way over the hill towards the high Mountains to the East where I suppose their burial grounds to be as they one in advance seemed to have the body on his shoulder -

About 4 P.M. the weather cleared up some so that I saw the sun for 10 minutes or more - but the air has been very raw and cold all day.

At dark the wind came out N.W. with a heavy fall of snow and air intensely cold and disagreeable. I am so annoyed at present by the tantalizing of the Imperial pests of this house that I can write no more - with peace to either mind or person -

Thursday 28th October -

Calmer this morning and quite cold - the snow has ceased to fall and the horizon to the North has that peculiar flint like expression that resembles a winter's morning in New England, provocative of Hot buckwheat cakes & Coffee & etc. for breakfast - The recollections of a snug little oval table with its damask cloth, glittering china, silver ware and the smiling faces gathered around corner picturing itself to my forced fancy so replete with every happiness and content that, spite with the utmost boasting I find my present surroundings so widely in contrast and so ill tending to reconcile me to the miserable existence I am enduring here - But I should be thankful for my narrow escape. Grateful that

I am permitted to live. Not the hope of again meeting those that are near and dear to me so far away. But for what purpose is it that I should lose a full year of my life in exile? doubtless it has some bearing upon my future life, some end to accomplish wisely ordained by the Divinity - that shapes our ends. All this suffering of mind and body, this anguish and torture I never can believe it. I am to endure no more even in the future, that's allotted us in after life that we are taught to believe from Infancy. In the "hollow of the hand that guides us" it proves it is but a hollow shallow and base life as the fabric of a vision. "Not a sparrow falls to the ground" is very good logic for the credulous, but that human life is of more account believe it not so faithful. It's sophistry more shallow than the ~~sophistry~~ hollow we have heard about and as sound in theory as the Roman Doubtless.

I seldom allow these feelings to influence my mind - seldom revert to what might have been. It is sufficient to have the consciousness by associations without any more arising by vain incessant longings and idle reproaches. I only wish the Capt of the "Massachusetts" will not overbelieve the tale of my disaster by the report of all hands perishing with the ship. which from his heartlessness in leaving us to our fate I feel he is sure to do as a sort of self justification for not making the attempt to ascertain positively. If he does not it will spare many a heart throes of agony and the uncertainty may give to the few strong in faith the faint hope of eventual restoration.

Just as the natives commenced their breakfast there assembled no less than 50 men faces to share with them among them a fat clout of a little savage with face striped with black pigment

who was placed in a post of honor and supplied with all the choice bits their meagre fare offered - A relation of the family of Juny but such a revolting little savage that I cannot conceive what freak of Nature could have moulded such a hideous specimen of humanity. Yet they seem as fond of him as though he was Adonis himself - probably he is one of the blood Royal if there are any of that ilk here -

One of the women seems to be much amused at my writing this rapid scrawl and stares in open mouthed wonder and amazement at my scribbles - I often fancy they think I am writing about them and if they would feel at all flattered by my remarks and descriptions - I do not think they have much idea of ridicule or sufficient disinterestedness to feel at all humiliated by a description of their manners and customs which they consider superior to aught else in existence -

Occasionally sometimes when in a generous mood (as at present) divided a quantity of Tobacco among the household by biting off small mouthfuls from a stick and passing it around. My act just accomplished, he was magnanimous enough to offer me a share - My refusal and evident disgust of the article seem to form considerably amusement for them all! - As for the infant at the breast to extremes, old age such and all are habituated to the use - and I've got to see one among them of either sex who does not - Such is the force of the example of the Caucasian race -

Handwriting outside, about 10 AM I found a most lovely day for a wonder

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

clear remarkably but cold and sharp! —
From the sounds issuing from Accoom's
Wigwam I should judge he was on a big
drunk! —

A Native who arrived this morning
from the "Holly Head" of St. Lawrence Bay who
can talk a little English, says "The 'Helen
Snow' of New Bedford left that place 4 days
ago after remaining at anchor for 3 had
touching for water and as she had lost
all her boats in the recent gale was obliged
to engage Native carves for the purpose —
That they knew nothing about the loss of
my ship then." Oh! that I could have
managed somehow to have sent her word!
what a world of anxiety and woe might have
been spared — for too well I know off C.
had have known of our disaster he
never would have left the coast without
making some effort to rescue me — There
has been no possible chance of my sending
a word from here yet and I do not
expect any. It is so difficult to express my wishes
so they can be understood! This fellow
can just render himself intelligible in this
case and that is about all — No my fault
to winter here, and there is no other alternative
but resignation —

Tuesday 28th —

A strong E. gale with clear weather — air quite
comfortable, but not warm enough to thaw
the ice. Early this morning a native brought
a quantity of Walrus teeth to exchange for some
of the reduced 95^{per cent} spilling some upon
the hide flooring of the wigwam accidentally
from the full bottle in his hands he clutched
upon hands and knees and lapped it
up like a dog — loose deerhairs dirt and
all! his honesty —

Another native came to see me this

morning who had just arrived from St Lawrence
 Bay - who can talk considerable English and
 one I remember perfectly well having been on
 board my ship while watering at that place
 On July last - and is about as reliable in his
 statements as any of them - He says "until he
 came here he knew nothing of my wreck
 that the natives have only just commenced
 to travel along the coast - that throughout
 the entire winter they will be constantly
 on the move visiting different villages the
 entire length of the coast for the purpose
 of obtaining food from those that have been
 fortunate in laying in a winter's supply.
 that this place "Owalin" has "plenty" of
 walrus caught last summer - that his
 house and that as soon as the Bay is
 frozen over there will be a great many
 visitors from all parts - but the most
 interesting of all is that at Foul Bay some
 300 miles south of us a small schooner is
 wintering for the purpose of trading - that
 she had only 3 men on board now - the
 rest of her crew having gone south in
 some of the whaling fleet that had touched
 there. That he himself will go to her in
 the course of 2 months or more and will
 take a note to her Captain for me who
 probably will send me word to come down
 and share his winter quarters. It is a long
 distance to travel on dog sleds at this
 season of the year but I will make this
 attempt if I possibly rather than remain here
 surrounded by so much misery -

Going into Sicler's to acquaint my Officers
 of the news I found that he had just
 returned from the wreck with an immense
 fresh Salmon he had found cast up
 upon the beach frozen as stiff as an
 Owl - It was put into a pot of snow

[Faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

water, boiled for our dinner, and after a feed
we all did justice to there was little remaining but
the bones. On my return to the house I was
presented with about a dozen small ones of
the same description that "Matalie" had found
along the shore in the snow and ice. They
will do for supper. At dark the wind was
quite moderate and a fine snow that had
been falling since 7 A.M. ceased altogether.
The air is quite warm enough to melt it now
rendering walking splashy enough. but in
a new pair of seal skin boots on that I
gave me this morning which having quite
long legs and a drawing string at the top
are perfectly water tight. although somewhat
damp and heavy from the quantity of
moisture that adheres to the hair left on
the outside.

These thaws occur quite frequently
now the weather is so changeable and unsettled.
The morning is no indication of what the day
will be like, or what the night may bring as
the wind baffles about from four to six
points and snow falls regardless of its
direction or force. At yet I do not feel the
cold so severe as on the day of our arrival
but from various indications of the sky
to the Northward probably I shall not have
to wait long for the snowmelt.

Saturday 2nd October

At calm with a heavy fall of snow during
the night which ceased about 7 A.M. when
the wind came out gently from the SE and
for the second time since I've been here
the sun shone brightly for a while revealing
azure spaces through the canopy of dull
gray sombre clouds above. The change was
a great relief from our long experience of
surrounding gloom and darkness and most

grateful and agreeable to our feelings - While I was wandering about enjoying it to the utmost, a native came to the house and reported ~~hunting~~ upon the high land to the NW. Encouraged all excitement and bustle was prepared for the hunt and soon off across the lake with a sled and team of 8 dogs who were making quite 10 miles the hour at the start - the surface of it is just sufficiently firm enough to support such weight and quite smooth from the freezing of yesterday, thaw last night.

He did not return until nightfall however and instead of a deer brought an immense ^{mottled} Gray Owl as a trophy which was suspended from the ceiling rafters of the house inside. The wind had now come out from the North and the snow was again falling quite fast - two of my men who have just dropped in and who have been down to the creek say nothing is now visible above the snow but the stern frame and loop deck.

The sunshin, that lasted nearly all day induced the women who have their winter house covering to repair to take them outside the boots and spread them upon the snow for the purpose of sewing up the rents made by the last winter's exposure - These are all made of Deer skins sewed firmly together and cut to the required circular shape to form a good fit and as they are only used during the winter probably they near approach to the Inducement just now - Their method of sewing seems awkward enough to me as they sew thumbly as you call it upon the forefinger while the needle is held by the index and thumb point and sew with the arm which gives it the appearance of overhand work and very awkward indeed - Needles to them are their choicest treasures and prized

of a size of No. 12. These are obtained from the Whalers and Traders exclusively, but what was in use before their advent. In no sense and probably shall not until I am able to understand the language sufficient to enquire -

Thread is made from the fibre of the Whale and Deer sinews, twisted like chord and preferred to ours from its immense strength and durability.

Although the temperature, probably has not been anytime during the entire day above 10° above zero - ~~and~~ their fingers looked red enough to indicate their sensitiveness, still they say "they are not cold" and govtly pursue their industry with their skins spread wide over the snow exposed to the full force of the wind, that it of quite sufficient coolness to induce me to seek shelter inside the hut.

Sunday 30th October

A. Moderately frosty, windy with an occasional fall of snow. Our visitor from St. Lawrence Bay left early this morning with his sled loaded with frozen Walrus meat as weighty as the team of 7 Muzz looking cars could draw while their owner trudged along on foot by its side the entire distance of some 45 miles.

It was on a spree last night at the house where he was liberally entertained by Emulich, his cousin with 75 per cent and appreciated the generosity of his host by drinking all that was offered. Which I should judge was quite 2 quarts. His fondness for me at last became too troublesome for my comfort and I managed to change my quarters into Accommis house for the night but there was too much gathering of the usual enemy for my resignation so I finally returned and found the poor Inebriated fellow indulging in a nap in the middle of the room. The remainder of the night was

passed in comparative safety. I gave him a
 letter for the Captain of the Tender at Town Bay
 but I think it will be some time before
 it reaches its destination as they do not travel
 until they see makes firmly along the entire
 shore. At present it is comparatively mild as
 the total abstinence of the Ice indicates the
 first season I've ever seen the like in my
 visits. After bidding Hawaii adieu I returned
 made a fire and cooked a sort of stew of
 salt Beef and Biscuit which answered the
 purpose of breakfast. and in fact is about
 the only way I can eat the butter as it all
 been wet with salt water - but to our who
 generally eat all meals in a frozen state
 anything warm is a treat. something I
 fancy the natives themselves care little about
 their preference if they have any is confined
 principally to food in a state of putrescence
 Walrus meat is most freely indulged in and
 the quantity they consume is enormous.

Their receptacles or store houses are
 large excavations made in the ground that
 are walled up the sides with stones and
 covered with tops of grass then plastered over
 with mud which form large hollow
 mounds with an opening at the top where
 their contents are kept. the aperture is
 usually closed with the shoulder blade of some
 defunct whale with heavy weights of stones
 upon it to prevent the dogs from making a
 raid. One has only need to trust to his
 olfactory to convince him there is
 something rotting in the state of Denmark
 when they are opened for the dogs supply a
 perfect massacre then arises for there are
 Walrus cased in every stage of putrefaction
 with whale meat and blubber freely mingled
 and the rush of all the dogs in the neighborhood
 convincing one "There's something in the wind"

[Faint, illegible handwriting visible through the paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Monday 3rd October 1890 -

A strong West wind and very cold atmosphere. The women of the house this morning made a pretence of putting things in order when everything is in confusion generally - but I can see little of any improvement as the result.

Last night I suffered from want of covering as the lamps all went out and the warmth of the apartment grew palpably colder than I ever ~~felt~~ felt it before. My skin coverlet is like the Lushman's Blanket too short at one end and as a matter of course I'm taking a very bad cold in consequence but I find there is some advantage to be gained in the absence of the usual warmth as one is less annoyed by the plague of Egypt which verifies the old adage of "no great loss without some small gain".

The sun has shone bright all day as the sky is comparatively clear and tonight the wind has subsided considerably but the cold is intense and it ^{has} been by far the coldest day of the season! - The temperature has not been far from zero and if this continues the sea must soon freeze over. I wish for a thermometer often but as I saved no instruments of any description from the wreck I may wish in vain - I miss the loss of my sextant more than all the rest as it was a most valuable instrument and the best I ever saw - but that went with all the other articles that £1200 will not replace such is the result of Arctic cruises sometimes!!!

I've been out but once today as my cold is decidedly worse, accompanied by a most distressing cough - but see no medicine except for use of tea of which I verily believe I must have eaten quite 5 pounds today -

Tuesday November 1st 1870 -

A light West wind, clear weather, and intensely cold atmosphere - My cough much better this morn thanks to a dose of pills, of the Linn persuasion I found in Omulic's box of trinkets, from Adfield - which I very believe had the desired effect - I had wished for Thanks to Janke's Patent Medicines!

About dark last night Accoume came down to see me looking very serious, indeed as I was coughing incessantly - said something to Omulic which I fancied related to me and then went away again without shaking hands and bidding me good night - a feature he had not failed to perform before since my arrival, and most unusual - I laid down and went off into a dog's when presently I was awakened to them my feed of blubber with them, seeing a stranger, and asking where he was from - Matasie said his house was "close to" and if I looked at him when I coughed it would check it -

Having heard of their Medicine men I fancied he was one from the first, and knowing how superstitious they are I felt he had been summoned for my especial benefit -

Sometime after they had finished their meal a daughter of his came with a sort of rude tamboine, and gave it to him. at my request it was passed to me for examination as it was the first of the thing I ever saw although I had heard of its use before from some of my officers who had been advised on arrival. Made of a circular form by bending a strip of soft wood like a hoop the two ends forming a handle covered with the outer skin of a seals' bladder stretched tightly across one surface - It assumed the form of a tamboine, very well and was much the same size of the ordinary kind - a piece of wood made of deer skin

attached to the handle was fastened to a narrow strip of whalebone to beat it with and as the skin was stretched to its utmost tension gave quite a musical satisfaction when beating - returning it to its owner he seated himself beside the stove lamp with its narrow circular blaze of light - he had the look at him whenever I had an inclination to cough and I would find relief - feeling much amused and interested to know all about it I gratified his wishes, to the letter.

Opening the performance with a prelude, he commenced a slow sort of monotonous chant that evinced considerably flexibility of voice and at times quite musical - presently the lamps were extinguished and we were left in total darkness - The time increased now faster - the chanting grew louder and the combined sounds filling the apartment could be distinctly heard at a distance.

"Matahe" interrupted the player by calling out in stentorian tones "Gah, Gah" twice which was received by all present - Emulating winding up with "Gah, wah" "Gah, wuh" which as I understood it means "quick, quick" and by and by - for some 15 minutes this continued increasing both in strength of voice and number until forbearance became a virtue and he was obliged to cease from their exertion - a conversation was now carried on between himself and the evil spirit he was exorcising - every sentence opening with He He He and closing with a satisfactory Ahah! - Then another resort to the music another discussion and so on for 3 most long hours in total darkness - one part of his refrain was truly musical and to that I could listen with pleasure but the border of the air and the words seemed like gibberish a sort of running together of consonants without a vowel that from repetition soon became

most wearisome, so that I soon fell asleep, and shortly after the sweating stage, getting in I experienced great relief - awaking at intervals, during the performance I finally went off sound enough until awaking with a start. I found the lamp lighted, and the performance over for which the Gods be thanked for the "night has been most hideous." They all bid me go to sleep and acting upon their advice, I did so. Waking this morning feeling much better, the natives ascribe it to the potent charm of the Medicine Man who receives ~~their~~ ^{their} laudations, as a matter of course, and I to propitiate favor from the mighty Influence he possesses acknowledge my recovery to be the result of his efforts alone.

Unlike most of his class, who are usually hideous in appearance and revolting in action, he was neither - he had a most pleasant face wearing a constant smile, and was in fact one of those open countenanced fellows that one would feel safe with anywhere -

What "accoume" gave him for his wonderful success in practice, I have no idea but I do usually large I believe and as "Matalie" says "he like run too much" I suppose he would like to leave me now frequently - his name is "Camalgim" which interpreted into English is "White Fish."

About 10 A.M. dropped anchor and went outside to find a clear pleasant day with light southerly winds. The sea as far as the eye can trace, is frozen over with a thin coating of ice not strong enough to bear ones weight or firm enough to resist the current that is setting steadily toward the straits to the East along the shore at the rate of quite 3 miles per hour. This brings down the field ice from the S.W. now in sight some 5 miles distant which is steadily approaching and probably soon will cover the entire sea to the South of us. The birds of all

kindly that have been winging their way so steadily to the South have about all passed through the gales between the ^{two} continents, as only now and then one can be seen hanging up as though behind times and quite conscious of it -

Occasionally on a "big drunk," and a good many natives, in this section also. It seems to be a sort of holiday with them, and to emulate the whiteman, they sang it out in this way.

One peculiarity in regard to them is that when they are in a state like this, they seem to be drunk all over for ~~the~~ not only the brain that is affected, but every feature is distorted, to such a fierce, unnatural stage, that they are scarcely recognizable. Whether ~~the~~ the climate or the peculiar brand of Beer they indulge in or the combination of both, I cannot say but certainly they are the best natured drunkards I ever saw - as I get to see an instance of fighting among themselves or even quarrelling. ~~The~~ fact -

They bring their whalebone and Walrus teeth to the houses where they run a fur sale and receive for each single article a bottle of 95 pr st that has been twice reduced, once by the Traders that landed it and once by the Natives who leave it in charge. As the all left in trust until the next spring.

The quantity of whalebone that has been brought to this house already will amount to quite 3 tons, and for I tell me there is quite as much at "Mearnagans" where he is living. The greater portion of it has been saved from the wreck.

Those that still never draw a sober breath as long as there is a drop remaining. I often see them running about in the snow from one house to another, stripped naked to the waist, bare feet and head, without feeling apparently any inconvenience from the

While in this stage they are allowed the privilege of doing and saying nearly everything they please entering the sleeping apartments without even removing their boots a feature that anyone else never thinks of forgetting. Myself as well, to avoid tracking snow and ice. If I make any allusion to any of them I am told not to look for they are "Big Men, Low Low" which is Malin's English for "I am drinking".

To the credit of the younger class of females I must say I have not yet seen one drunk - but nearly all the married women and the most of the younger young and old are very fond of the white man's "Fire Water" - O Malin's and her son O Malin's never touch it - but twice I've seen Oponga stealthily abstracting her Mils from the cask when not apparently observed.

Thus far I've refrained from any allusion to any of my men in regard to disposal - as there has been more or less changing going on constantly - but now I believe they are all quartered for the winter one in each house (except the 2^d and 4th Officers who live together) and are as well cared and provided for as the limited means of the Natives will allow.

They have nearly all skin clothing made or making for them and without any immediate prospect of payment but I've tried to make them understand that on the arrival of the fleet in the spring they shall all be rewarded - no doubt they have had considerably inducement to this end - as I fancy they have sufficiently understood me to anticipate the reception of something and I think no more than right they should for where among Christians would so many strangers be taken in naked, & clothed, hungry, and fed? Homeless and housed?

